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CALENDAR

OF THE

MADRAS DESPATCHES

1744-1755

BY

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INTRODUCTION

I

The following pages contain an abstract of the despatches exchanged between the East India Company and its principal Council on the Coromandel Coast. The bulk of the documents here calendared occur in the Madras series of records called *Despatches to and from England;* and certain documents have been included here—although not despatches—partly because they explain matters which the despatches leave untouched, but mainly because they occur in the despatch volumes themselves. The treatment accorded to these enclosures to despatches (for that is what they really are) has been varied according to their nature and importance. Occasional papers of little moment have been relegated to a foot-note at the appropriate point of the covering despatch. Documents of greater interest, such as those relating to the Anglo-French negotiations of 1753, are treated as separate items. Papers of a regularly recurrent nature, such as lists of the investment, lists of recruits, and the like, will be found in tabulated form in the Appendix.

The reader will also observe that the present volume includes a number of papers which are not preserved in the Madras Record Office. In order to secure the completeness of the series, Mr. William Foster, C.I.E., has been good enough to supply me with transcripts of the despatches preserved at the India Office but missing here. These are marked 'India Office transcript' at the end of the descriptive heading. Of these transcripts, some are taken from the original document or a contemporary copy; but for many, the only representative that has survived is the contemporary précis made for official use, and preserved in the series known at the India Office as 'The Coast and Bay Abstracts.' In many passages these old précis are wofully ambiguous;

and where this is so, I have simply reprinted the précis as it stands.

A word of explanation is needed on the arrangement of the present volume. Despatches were normally written whenever a ship or group of ships was ready to sail. The outward sailings, so far as Madras was concerned, were generally two in number. At the end of December or early in January, the Company sent out its Coast and China ships, which carried bullion to Madras and then proceeded to Canton. A few weeks later the Coast and Bay ships were despatched. These carried bullion and cargo for both Madras and Bengal. These two groups provided conveyance for two regular despatches to the East. Sometimes a special ship was made ready earlier than usual; sometimes a ship was detained, by accident or design, after the rest had sailed. These account for supplementary despatches. But it seldom happened that these letters from the Company fell outside the months October—April. The despatches from Madras were similarly conditioned. It was usual to lade one ship home in September or early October, and others in the following January or February; so that, except during the confusion which followed the loss of Madras in 1746, the homeward despatches fall as a rule within the months September—March. Thus both sets of despatches, if we except those occasionally sent overland, fall into a quite definite system which regularly overlaps the beginning of the modern calendar year. It seemed best therefore to group the despatches by seasons, instead of calendar years; and under each season the reader will find, first, the letters sent home from the Coast, and, then, those written to the Coast from London.

Finally the despatches to England tend more and more to fall into two groups, one dealing with the Company's trade, the other with political and military events. At first the second category is represented only by occasional letters written and signed by the Governor alone. Later, when a

Committee for Country Affairs was formed within the Council itself, we find 'separate despatches' emanating from the smaller body, and thus distinguished from the 'general despatches' which constitute the normal document when the present volume opens. Later still, a 'separate despatch' is merely one dealing with confidential or political matters, no matter whether signed by a Committee of the Council or by the whole Council itself.

II

The documents thus brought together embrace the despatches from England of 1744 (which would have found a place according to their date of receipt in the Calendar of the Madras Records for 1745, had the Calendar been continued on the plan on which it was begun[1]), down to the despatches to England of the season 1754–55. The years thus covered fall from a political point of view into two distinct periods:—(1) 1744–49, the period of the War of the Austrian Succession; and (2) 1749–54, the period of the greatness and downfall of Dupleix. It is unnecessary here to re-tell the familiar story, for I have already dealt with it at some length elsewhere[2]. But it is worth while to dwell for a moment on the development of political consciousness, the early stages of which are revealed in the letters now calendared. At the beginning of the period, neither the Company nor its servants on the Coast have the faintest presentiment of their political destiny. For example, the Company expresses its pleasure that Madras should have become the temporary capital of the Carnatic as the place of residence of the child who for a few months reigned in the place of his murdered father, Safdar 'Ali Khān[3]. But the benefits to be derived from such a residence were limited to the grant of two or three paltry villages. The expense involved quickly disgusted the Directors of the Company. They gave orders that in

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[1] See my '*Calendar of the Madras Records*, 1740–44,' Madras, 1917.
[2] See my '*Dupleix and Clive*,' Methuen, 1920.
[3] *Infra*, p. 2.

future the entertainment of such guests was to be avoided. On no account was money to be lent to the Country princes. Have as little to do with them as possible, was the burden of the despatches from London ; do not trust them more than you can help ; do not give them larger presents than is absolutely necessary[1].

Such was the attitude, not only of the Company, but also of its servants in the East, until both were driven to intervention by the situation established by French activity in 1749. Even then, trade remained their chief pre-occupation. It was the threat of being encircled by French territory and having to pay imposts established by French rivals that really forced the English to intervene in the politics of the South.[2] It was trade interests that disposed the English to accept the disadvantageous terms of the treaty of 1754 with Godeheu. It was still that punctuality and exactness which are essential to great trade activity which the Company demanded from its principal servants.

At the beginning of the period, the political authority was in the hands of the President and Council of Fort St. George. When La Bourdonnais captured Madras in 1746, the subordinate Council at St. David's at once assumed control of the English factories and interests on the Coast, in which it was subsequently confirmed by the Company. Thus Nicholas Morse and the senior servants on the Coast were replaced by John Hinde and the Councillors of St. David's. Hinde died early in 1747, and was succeeded by Charles Floyer, who thus was in possession of that extensive influence which the Governor enjoyed, in fact if not in theory, at the moment when the English decided to abandon their political inactivity and support the Nawab whose family the French had attacked and expelled from the Carnatic in 1749.

The fact that so decisive a step should have been taken by so colourless a person is but another proof—were more proof wanted—that the English were impelled to take their

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1 *Infra*, pp. 15 and 56.

2 *Infra*, pp. 81 and 121.

part, not by political prevision, but by the tyrannous force of circumstances. Floyer seems to have been a cheerful, convivial companion; he was a better partner at the card-table than in the counting-house; and before he was dismissed by the Company for gaming, had given it by his casual ways a thousand causes for displeasure. The Company's bales would be found to contain more than one kind of cloth; and that short in measure and deficient in number. The Company's merchants under his lax rule would promise 3,000 bales, and then explain that it was all a mistake, for they had meant only half as much. The bills sent home for expenditure incurred on the seamen of H. M.'s Squadron in the Company's hospital were rejected by the Admiralty on account of their errors and irregularities. Did the Company call for an account of the expenditure incurred at Madras during the siege, Floyer and his Council would content themselves with registering the amount of the claims without inquiring into their validity. Buildings would cost double their original estimates. Embassies would be sent which secured no advantages but cost 10,000 Pagodas. The ancient rule which had guided the English on the Coast for a hundred years—that all business of importance should be settled in Council—was broken through; and an expedition was set out to invade the territory of a neighbouring prince and capture one of his towns, without the matter being broached in Council until the men were on the march. Never before had the Company's funds been so lavishly expended, or to so little purpose.

In the middle of 1750, therefore, Floyer and his Council were dismissed, and a new Governor and Council appointed. Floyer's successor was Thomas Saunders, Chief of Vizagapatam, and in all respects his opposite. Floyer, we imagine, was a gay, lively, volatile fellow; Saunders was, if not actually morose, a man of impenetrable reserve. Floyer, like his predecessors, had maintained a table at which all persons of respectable rank in the settlement were welcome; Saunders

ate his dinner alone. His conversation was as sparing and trenchant as the other's was copious and versatile. He was a man too of amazing persistence and common-sense. Orme once said of him that he had never met a man he would fear more as an enemy. He was wealthy, and was looking rather to remit his fortune home on good terms than to increase it. His policy then had no under-meaning, but was direct and single. Perhaps he was not a great man; but he was indeed one of those (of whom the English race has produced many examples) who do great things by means of their good sense and imperturbability. You could not startle or alarm him into a foolish act. To him, equally with Lawrence and Clive, was due the defeat and recall of Dupleix. He remained Governor until January, 1755; and then, his work accomplished and fortune transmitted to England, he returned to build him a mansion, marry a wife, and enjoy the remainder of his days amidst the scenes of his boyhood.

Meanwhile the seat of Government had been transferred once more to Fort St. George. The southern settlement, in spite of its proximity to large weaving districts, such as Chennappanayakanpalaiyam, was in other ways little fitted to be the head-quarters of a great trade. It lacked the spacious warehouses and offices which had long before been built at Madras Above all, while at both ships had to lie in open roads, yet at Madras vessels could anchor much nearer in; and the masula-boats, used to lade and unlade them, could make half-a-dozen trips there for one at Fort St. David. Accordingly, when both Floyer's and Saunders' Council had reported on these matters, the Company consented to the remove, and Madras became the Presidency again on April 5, 1752.

Just as these eventful years witnessed the slow and painful birth of a political policy, so also they witnessed the first development of a knot of scattered and inefficient garrisons into an organised army capable of supporting and defending a policy in the field. When the first of these

despatches was written, the highest officers in the English service on the Coast were Lieutenants (styled Captains by courtesy) commanding companies. The Artillery consisted of what was called the 'gun-room crew,' in which the officers did not receive commissions at all. So pervasive was the commercial spirit of the society in which they lived, that the Council justifies an increase in their scanty pay by observing that of late they have had small chance of making anything by trade. Such conditions did not make for military spirit or efficiency. When Madras was attacked in 1746, the conduct of the defence proved that the officers neither knew how to defend themselves nor could command the obedience of their men. This was indeed what one would expect to find in a colonial garrison of that day. Madras was probably no worse than any other English colonial fortress in any other quarter of the globe.

But on January 28, 1748, there arrived at St. David's Major Stringer Lawrence, deservedly called, 'the Father of the Indian Army'. He was born in 1698. In 1711 he had accompanied Lord Peterborough as a page on his embassy to the Emperor Joseph, and continued for the most part in that nobleman's service until 1726 when he went as a volunteer to the siege of Gibraltar. In the following year he bought his commission as ensign in Clayton's Foot (now the West Yorks) and served in that regiment for the next nineteen years,—until 1743 at Gibraltar, and then in Flanders and Scotland[1]. He thus brought to India what was sadly needed—the English discipline and a knowledge of war. As soon as he arrived, he set to work to drill and discipline his command into shape, so that, when the Company sent out a set of new Military Regulations, Council was able to report that almost all had been adopted before their arrival.

But his first period of service on the Coast was brief and (to tell the truth) inglorious. At Boscawen's siege of

[1] Memorandum of Lawrence's services, endorsed 1759, *ap. Chatham Mss. i*-48.

Pondichery, he was made prisoner almost as soon as the siege began. In 1750 indeed he commanded the English auxiliaries who joined Nasir Jang; but the excellent advice which he gave that potentate was rejected; and he marched back again to St. David's having accomplished nothing. In the following September he resigned.

His reason for this is far too characteristic of the age and the man to be passed over. He had been appointed on the same terms as Major Knipe, i.e., £250 a year[1]. However at his arrival, Madras and its records were still in French hands, and no one knew what Knipe's salary had been. He was accordingly given £300 a year with allowances which came up to as much again. In this the Company at first acquiesced; but long meditation on the iniquity of Floyer and his Council convinced the Directors that this too must have been a job; so the increase was cut off. On this he resigned and went home[2]. I cannot feel that any one comes out of this very well. The Company had no business to play fast and loose with its terms of service; it should at least have kept its word. Lawrence too manifests a greater regard for money than is quite pleasant. He succeeds in making the Council give him twice as much as he had agreed on, and resigns in a huff when he is reduced to his original terms. All this is of course immensely natural; but we can hardly call it heroic. An inclination to overvalue money was indeed a vice of Lawrence's character. At a later date, he was always affecting poverty, and yet we are told, he had saved £10,000.[3] Avarice was not the exclusive privilege of the Company's covenanted servants.

Nor yet was it incompatible with the greatest gallantry. The Old Cock, as his officers affectionately styled Lawrence, was one of those cool-headed, clear-sighted tacticians whose skill has been displayed on numberless battle-fields and

[1] *Calendar of the Madras Records*, 1740–44, p. 352.
[2] *Infra*, pp. 44, 52, 76, 109, 110 and 116.
[3] Orme to Payne, November 16, 1757. (*Orme Mss. Various*, 28. f. 215.)

whose exploits constitute well nigh the whole of our military history. In 1752 he returned, after having extracted from the Company new terms even better than those which he had lost in 1750[1]; and with hardly a day's delay he marched to overthrow the French before Trichinopoly. Within three months the French forces before that city had surrendered and Chunda Sahib had been beheaded. This was the great blow which brought about the recall of Dupleix.

Nor was this the only blow. In the autumn of the same year he destroyed another French force at Bahur, between St. David's and Pondichery. In 1753, in spite of attacks of asthma, he routed the French commanders one by one, whenever they ventured within the reach of those gallant grenadiers whom Orme has so eloquently commemorated. In the next year, his health admitted of less activity. He had for instance to watch from the top of one of the gates of Trichinopoly, while Captain Caillaud fought his way through an overwhelming number of the enemy[2]. But officers and men were by then alike inspired by his spirit. Able leaders were not wanting. The army had been firmly welded together by four years of incessant fighting, and was a very different body from that which in 1751 had hurriedly retired before Chunda Sahib and the French under the walls of Trichinopoly. The weapon had been forged for the conquest of Bengal.

III

Administration, within the narrow limits of the Company's power, continued very much on the ancient lines; and the present volume contains allusion to one notable proof that on the whole it weighed but lightly on the Indian inhabitants of Madras. In September, 1746, the city was surrendered to La Bourdonnais; in the following month, he delivered it over to people nominated by Dupleix, who at once set to work to transplant the wealthy

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[1] *Infra*, p. 157.

[2] Orme. *History*, Vol. I, p. 356.

merchants from Madras to Pondichery. He spared no promises or threats. The Black Town was pillaged. Half of it was pulled down. The merchants were ordered to deposit their goods in the fort and assemble on a certain day to be carried to the French settlement. But all was vain. Except a few penniless rascals who hoped to profit by the change, not a man would go. The Chettis and Vaisyas and weavers remained obstinately in the country, and redeemed what property they still had in Madras by bribing the Frenchmen in authority. But when in August, 1749, Boscawen and Lawrence hoisted the union-flag once more over Fort St. George, the merchants came flocking back to their ruined homes as gladly as if each had received a fortune—a testimony honourable alike to them and to the English.

It is likely that Madras was administered less excellently while it was a subordinate factory, than when it had been the head-place upon the Coast. The Chief was Richard Prince, of whom little is known, but that little is unfavourable. The Company at all events believed that he exacted heavy contributions for allowing the old inhabitants to return. Ranga Pillai at Pondichery heard stories of the injustice he inflicted on various persons, among others one who perhaps was a grandson of the famous adventurer, Constantine Phalkon, degenerated into a mere captain of country shipping[1]. On one occasion at least Prince's dubash was summoned before Council for extortion—an indignity which his master bore but sulkily[2].

When however the Government returned thither in 1752, it is likely that whatever was wrong was speedily amended, a reform which must have been assisted by the new charter, transmitted in 1753, establishing anew the old Mayor's Court and Court of Quarter Sessions, which were held to have been dissolved by the capture of Madras. Besides these two old courts for the administration of civil and criminal justice, a new court, the Court of Requests, was also set up, to hear petty

1 *Diary of Ānanda Ranga Pillai*, Vol. vii, p. 380 and n. 2.
2 *Public Consultations*, August 15, 1750.

causes in which the subject of dispute did not exceed in value 5 Pagodas—40*s*. sterling. Besides these courts, under a statute of William III, the President and Council were empowered to sit as a Court of Admiralty to try cases of piracy and other crime committed on the high seas; and for this purpose a special commission was issued at the beginning of each reign.

On the whole, justice seems to have been tolerably well administered by these tribunals. One complaint was made in 1754, but the complainant, Ephraim Isaac, seems to have been rather a paltry fellow. He is reported to have accused one of the aldermen of the Mayor's Court of giving dinners to two others in order to make them stick to him. When the President and Council desired his explanation of such a charge, he alleged no other justification than that the offending alderman was more conversant with 'Hoyle's History of the four Kings' than with the law-books sent out by the Honourable Company[1]; and his temper is probably indicated by the fact that he declined to answer the President and Council as such, but addressed his answer to 'Thomas Saunders and other His Majesty's Justices of the Peace.' We shall meet with him again in the next volume.

In 1751 we find the beginning of what is now a most important branch of administration—that of the Land Revenue. Our support of Muhammad 'Alī Khān led naturally to the grant of land round Madras, intended to meet the cost of the troops employed in the Nawab's protection. This was the tract subsequently known as the Company's Jāgīr, and the estimated revenue was 2 lakhs. The manner in which this was dealt with affords the classic example of what is usually considered the timidity of early European administrators in India. The Madras Council was most reluctant to undertake the difficult and technical task of direct administration. Instead of this, it advised that the revenues should be farmed out to the highest bidder, just as the French were doing, and

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[1] *Infra*, p. 217. *Public Consultations*, February 4, 1754.

just as the Country governments had long before begun to do. The Company acquiesced, with the recommendation that the leases should run for one year only instead of five. No one will pretend for a moment that this method, however sanctioned by the example of others and by what was fast becoming, if it had not already become, the custom of the country, was anything but a bad, wasteful and unjust method of collecting the revenues, sometimes involving extortion of the worst nature. A contemporary would, I think, have admitted this as readily as we do; but, he would have added, you will not get rid of extortion even if you substitute a European collector for an Indian renter; the collector will have to be provided with subordinates, who will rob and plunder quite as much as the renter, and who will actually collect less revenue under the collusive agreements which they will certainly make with the ryots. Indeed there would have been much force in such a contention, strengthened as it was by the prevailing ignorance of the Company's servants of the languages and customs of the people. Such was the reason why this system of renting was adopted; and its adoption certainly does not manifest that anxiety to exploit the country for private benefit with which the Company's servants are commonly credited. A dishonest collector could have made a large fortune in a short time. Here we see such an opportunity deliberately refused by the President and Council for their friends and fellows in the service.

One other point, under this head of Administration, deserves mention. A despatch of 1754, here calendared, gives an account of an aspect of the life of the Company's servants in the East seldom dwelt upon—the cost of living[1]. The Madras Council in 1754 rates this at 1,098 Pagodas a year, or £439, for a decent living. But it is clear that a good deal depends upon the rank of person for whom the

[1] *Infra*, p. 245.

scale is calculated. A decent living for a newly joined writer is not the same thing as for a servant of some fifteen years' standing. The estimate includes items which suggest to me that the latter is the type of person the Council was thinking of. For instance the 90 Pagodas allotted for liquors would buy a pipe of Madeira and still leave a considerable balance for the purchase of other wines or spirits, for at this time a pipe of Madeira could be bought at Madras for about 60 Pagodas. Again, such a figure as 480 Pagodas for house-expenses indicates a very liberal table, with generous hospitality and a considerable consumption of Europe stores, then very expensive. On the whole, I should suppose that the scale of expense is about equivalent to that of a bachelor establishment costing somewhere about 900 Rupees a month, which would be an establishment, not ostentatiously luxurious, but one in which nothing was cut short on the ground of economy. The increase in cost may be roughly estimated at 200 per cent. That however affords no measure of the general movement of prices in Madras, which rose much more than 200 per cent between 1754 and 1914. For instance you here have the eight or nine inevitable servants costing no more than 5½ Pagodas, not quite 20 Rupees, a month; in 1914 they would have cost about 100 Rupees, an increase of 400 per cent, which may be taken as an approximate measure of the price of piece-goods and food-grains taken together. As the former certainly fell, the latter must have increased in price at a still higher rate. In 1754, if you consumed country produce and drank country liquor, you could probably live in plenty on about half the Council's estimate—I should say, on 30 to 40 Pagodas a month—100 to 135 Rupees.

IV.

It remains for me to offer a few comments on the principal topic in most of these despatches—the subject of trade on the Coast. The general nature and extent of the Company's

trade I have already described in a preceding volume[1]. Up to the loss of Madras, the Investment continued very much on its former scale. In the season 1744–45, 4,600 bales were sent home; and in 1745–46 they rose to the exceptional height of 6,602[2]. But the capture of Madras and the subsequent troubles reacted most unfavourably on the Company's trade. In 1746–47 only 3,300 bales seem to have been provided; in 1747–48 very few seem to have been sent; in 1748–49 and 1749–50, 2,100 and 3,900 were provided on the Coast; and in 1751–52 the Investment was still under 4,600 bales.[3] On an average, the Investment for the eight seasons following the loss of Madras were probably a third less than the average of the six seasons preceding that misfortune. Even the Northern settlements, which had provided in former days 1,000 or 1,200 bales a season, were so distressed by the perpetual disturbances and decay of regular government that they could not procure even a third of their usual quantity[4].

This decline rendered the Directors more critical of the method of providing the Investment than they had been till then. That method was one which had been in use ever since the foundation of Madras a century before. Certain merchants were selected for their wealth and probity; they received the title of the Company's merchants; and were permitted to have peons who bore the Company's badge. At the beginning of each season they were called before the Council, and contracted individually for the provision of specified sorts and quantities; they then received advances proportionate to their shares in the Investment, and these advances were passed on by *gumastahs* to the weavers in the villages. On the arrival of the cloth, it was sorted, and credit given accordingly to the merchant responsible. Early in 1754 the Company seems

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[1] *Calendar of the Madras Records*, 1740–44, Introduction, pp. xvii, etc.
[2] *Infra*, pp. 7 and 28.
[3] *Infra*, pp. 36, 65, 91 and 148.
[4] *Infra*, p. 201.

to have contemplated a modification of this system. It was so private, they wrote, as to admit of unfair practices; in future a month's notice was to be given and written tenders received[1]. The change, according to all theory, should have been highly beneficial; but unfortunately it ignored the simple organisation of trade in India at this time. The Council acted as it was told; but instead of the cloud of tenders which should have come in, only four were received—one from a group of merchants who had long been employed on the Company's account, another from a merchant at St. David's, and the other two from men of straw. The Company's proposed reform thus made no difference in the world. It is conceivable that the Council had employed underhand means to bring this about; but the probabilities lie in the other direction. Under the Company's new system, 'witty, self-ended men' could have found their private advantage as easily as in employing the regular merchants. On the whole, it seems likely that the Council was speaking the truth when it assured the Directors that men valued the position of a Company's merchant rather from the honourable rank which it conferred than from the profits which it gave.[2]

Very similar to the foregoing was the struggle between the Directors and the Councillors as to the manner in which the imports of woolen cloth should be sold. This continued throughout the period covered by the present volume. The Company's imports consisted of copper, lead, iron and cloth. The metals were always sold at public outcry; but the woolen cloth was usually delivered to the Company's merchants at the fixed rate of 30 per cent over the invoiced price. At Calcutta and Bombay, however, woolen cloth, like other goods, was sold by auction; and the Company was anxious to establish the same at Madras as well, in the hope that it would thus secure higher prices. The merchants, it believed, desired a high rate of profits rather than a large sale. The Councillors did not admit this; and the old

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1 *Infra*, p. 223.

2 *Infra*, pp. 241 and 257.

method continued to be followed down to 1746, on the ground that the Company had permitted this until the merchants had cleared off the arrears which they had accumulated.[1]

When the St. David's Council replaced that of Madras, the same system was followed, to the Company's great anger, for it had not the excuse which the Madras Council had been able to set up, and besides the sale took an aggravated form by being limited to a single merchant, Linga Chetti. At last after repeated commands from the Company, the new system was begun in 1752; but it did not work. For one thing, the Company in the confidence of its *a priori* reasoning, sent out more woolen cloth than the Council had asked for, and the market seems to have been overstocked. In 1752 the price fell. In 1753 broad-cloth was lying rotting in the Company's godowns for want of buyers. The same was reported in 1754. Early in 1755 Madras had no less than 1,500 bales on hand, and was imploring the Company to send no more for a year.

Here again the true state of the case is not obvious. But the Company was evidently mistaken in supposing that Madras could be as favourable a market for woolen cloths as those cities in communication with Northern India. There the 'cold weather' is a reality; but in the country lying behind Madras, the term only means the season of least heat. The consequence was that the heavy cloths of Europe were little used in the South except for those saddle-cloths with which Moghal troopers even there covered their unfortunate horses. Probably, in the case of the sale of broad-cloth as in the case of the purchase of calicoes, the Council on the spot knew more than the Company issuing its orders on hearsay evidence and theoretical deductions.

In these respects at all events there had been small change since the 17th century; and the reader will see, too, that the Company clung to its monopoly of the trade to England as strenuously as ever. In the present volume we

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[1] *Infra*, pp. 2, 6, 14 and 24.

find the Directors warning their servants in the East against the possible appearance of Colonel James Mill (of the Austrian service) in Indian waters[1]. This project seems to have been connected with the expulsion of the Ostenders from their factory at Bankibazaar on the Hugli some years earlier. Their *directeur*, Schonamille by name, is mentioned as attempting afterwards to establish himself in Pegu with 300 men—'the scum of all nations'. In this attempt he had lost his life; after which event a party of his men had piratically seized a French vessel, the *Charles*, only in their turn to be made prize by a vessel of Barnett's squadron[2]. Later on in 1751 Colonel Mill (or Milles) came to London, in order to come to an understanding with the Company regarding his intended expedition to re-occupy the factory at Bankibazaar. He interested Bubb Doddington and the Duke of Newcastle in his plans, which seem to have gone so far as the conquest of Bengal itself; but the scheme broke upon the invincible hostility of the Company[3].

But while that body was as jealous as ever of its trade and privileges, it betrays in these despatches one or two curious admonitions of the modern tendency of commerce—prophecies which sound all the more oddly by reason of the old-fashioned instructions with which they are surrounded The prime condition of over-seas trade had always been that it should limit itself to articles comprising great value in small bulk. That condition had been relaxed by the discovery o the sea-route to the East Indies; but it seems that in the middle of the 18th century matters were going still further in the modern direction. Thus we find the Company so early as 1744 remarking that the inferior sorts of cloth were as profitable as the more expensive, and desiring that a new and inferior quality should be introduced into its sortments. This apparently was because the sale-prices in England did not

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1 *Infra*, p. 128. The name is also spelt 'Milles'.

2 *Infra*, pp. 10, 19 and 29.

3 *Bubb Doddington's Diary*, pp. 110—114. A volume in the Colonial Office papers—77-78, Nos. 66—68—contains many documents relative to Mill's plans.

discriminate between the different qualities as much as was done by the invoice-prices in India[1]. Again we hear that there is brisk demand for calicoes—preferably the cheaper qualities[2]. Nor is this tendency (for as yet it is no more than that) confined to calicoes. The China teas bought are evidently the cheaper sorts too. The taste we are told, matters little so long as the tea is sweet. The consumption of cheap teas is reckoned at no less than a million pounds a year[3].

Of the covenanted servants' private trade we hear little, but the two references in the present volume are decidedly curious. Thus we read that the factors at Gombroon have been ordered to allow goods to be sold outside the factory[4]. This was the outcome of a long series of complaints made by the servants at Calcutta and Madras. The factors in Persia had under some pretext or other always insisted that English goods should be sold only in the factory, where the prices ruled very considerably under those in the outside market; and it was alleged that the factors themselves were always the real buyers at these low rates. The orders here mentioned must have signified the abandonment of such unfair practices.

The other reference[5] is a rather naive proposal that covenanted servants of junior rank should be allowed to go to sea, i.e., to sail as supercargoes of country shipping, on condition of their drawing no pay during their absence. In support of this the Council alleged the specious reason that the junior servants would thus learn much about the trade or the country. But it was too evident that the plan would also supply members of Council with reliable supercargoes; while the Company feared this would only deplete its stock o writers on the Coast and lead to the employment of 'monthly writers' and Indian clerks, who were bound by no covenants and alike mistrusted.

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1 *Infra*, pp. 2 and 31. 2 *Infra*, p. 13. 3 *Infra*, p. 42.
4 *Infra*, p. 2. 5 *Infra*, pp. 182 and 224.

Among the regularly recurrent features of these despatches will be found statements of the value of the diamonds sent home by each ship. These amounted to over 200,000 Pagodas a season, say over half the value of the Company's average investment in the period after the capture of Madras. These remittances in diamonds were supposed to represent the returns made for the private silver and coral which were licensed by the Company for export to India, under condition of being consigned to the Governor of Madras jointly with the consignor's agent. It seems very possible however that these diamond remittances furnished a not unimportant means by which the covenanted servants and others sent money home to England. The amounts remitted in bills on the Company were, as may be seen from the details furnished in the despatches, of trivial amount at this time; and the only other practicable method was that of remitting through the foreign companies—a means which had not yet, I think, become popular.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1743-1744.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. MARCH 21, 1744. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 48, *pp.* 19–33 *(original* 15 *pp.)*]

Cite despatch of January 11. Have altered the charterparties so as to permit the despatch of ships from Bengal on or after November 10, so that they may get home earlier and demurrage may be saved. In the present war time Commanders must be protested against if they sail without their full complement of men; but there is no obligation to furnish them with men out of the garrison. Lascars should be supplied if possible. In 1741 it was arranged that Commanders shipping lascars in Bengal should contract to pay them the stipulated wages till the ship was unladed and 5*s.* a week thereafter till they could be sent back to India; the same should be done at Madras. As goods laded in addition to the charterparty tonnage pay only half-freight, as much should be sent that way as possible. The Company's country ships to be employed fetching bales, etc. Approve of sending the *Tygris'* woollen goods to Persia. Efforts to be made to detect goods laded clandestinely on the outward-bound ships. Commanders of ships, who seduce soldiers, etc., into desertion, will be dismissed; and must be required to certify that they have no deserters aboard. Complain of careless endorsement of the bills of lading. Have taken up 2 more vessels. In case Bohea and green tea cannot be procured at the limited price by February 10, the *Stafford* is to be laded at Canton with tutenague, sugar and gold (if procurable at 110 taels or under) for Madras; the Canton supercargoes are to receive 5% on the produce of the cargo. If ships are despatched after February 20, Commanders will be given 100 guineas (in case of a French war 200 guineas) if they get round the Cape the same season, and the owners will only be charged the invoice-price of goods damaged. In the case of ships despatched so late, fine goods should be secured with double wax-cloth and double cotton.

Send most of the Bengal silver directly to Madras so that the due proportion of it may be coined. Now that there is a likelihood of all the broadcloth at Madras being sold, it should in future be

put up at outcry as is done elsewhere; this will increase the sales, for the merchants prefer large profits to a large vend. Send as many cannon as possible to replace the old honey-combed guns on the walls. Will inquire into the deficiency of copper on the *Admiral Vernon.*

Send list of the investment. Hope the country will soon recover from the effects of the Maratha invasion. The inferior qualities of cloth (if properly sorted) are as profitable as the higher ones. Good demand for calicoes. May introduce a still lower number, No. 5, provided the other numbers are kept to their former standard. Hope that the merchants' balances have been quite cleared. 'Old running open accounts' are always unsatisfactory. Need of upright, capable men at the subordinate settlements illustrated by Burton's misconduct at Fort St. David. The French lack of money coupled with the large English supplies should prove very favourable to the investment. Precautions to be taken against fire; the Company allows no smoking, etc., in its warehouses at home. Suggest that placing a few soldiers in each boat would prevent the pilfering of the bales. Bengal baftas painted at Madras turn out much more profitable than painted moorees. Some of the latter should be painted at Sadras. Are gratified at the investment (750 bales) from the Northern factories. Sannoes from Bengal are only to be bleached, not painted.

Trust that the young Nawab will be confirmed, so that his grants may stand and some recompense be received for the cost of maintaining his family in Madras. If the grants prove beneficial, Krishnaji who was instrumental in obtaining them should be rewarded. Are highly gratified that Madras (as the Nawab's place of residence) should have become the capital of the province, as this will increase trade; its reputation is doubtless increased by the general currency of the English pagodas. All this is due to Benyon's prudent conduct which should be imitated. After consideration thought it best not to apply for powers to condemn prizes taken by the Company's ships under letters of marque; approve conduct regarding the captured Manilla ship. The late town-shroff should be expelled from Madras. Will give orders to the factors at Gombroon to allow goods to be sold outside the English factory in order to avoid the continual complaints of the Company's servants, etc., trading thither. Trust that this will induce ships to cease going to Bushire.

The fortifications as proposed by Knipe may be carried out if there is real need of them. Send some recruits, but it is difficult

to get good men in war-time; time-expired men should be encouraged to re-enlist. Sanction the building of a house at Ingeram. When any of the farms expire, public notice must be given that they will be sold at outcry on a fixed day. The reduction of expenditure and increase of the revenues last year are proofs of the Council's good services.

Approve conduct regarding Burton. Croke is to be given 500 Pags. and an annuity of £50 a year in reward for his long service and discovery of Burton's misdeeds. The account of quick stock must include the merchants' balances which were omitted from the Fort St. David statement. Have resolved to send out an annual supply of medicines, and not to supply the surgeons with any for their private practice. What are issued to the country ships or to the surgeons must be paid for at 20% advance on the invoice. Besides his pay Knipe is to receive 25 Pags. a year for servants. William Percival (late gunner) is appointed a factor. Arthur Rider's appointment as factor to date from the receipt of this despatch. Have appointed writers—James Mansell, William Orme, Thomas Gage, Hugh Norris, Alexander Baird, James Hugonin, James Morford and John Trenwith. Bills may be granted for £500 which Captain Francis Steward has lying at Madras. The ages of the covenanted servants are to be inserted in the lists sent home. Ships' arrivals. Propose the appointment of an Accountant-General (as has been done by Act of Parliament for the Court of Chancery) to take charge of the moneys deposited in the Mayor's Court.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. MARCH 23, 1744. RECEIVED JANUARY 18, 1745, FROM BENGAL. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 48, *p.* 37 (*original* 1 *p.*)]

Enclose copy of a letter from the Duke of Newcastle with a number of newspapers to be dispersed abroad. Immediate notice to be given to the several parts of India.

Appended is a copy of letter from the Duke of Newcastle to Harry Gough, Whitehall, March 22, 1744 [*ibid., p.* 45]: The English Minister at Paris reports that the King of France is about to declare war; and the master of an English packet-boat reports that war was declared at Calais yesterday. Desires this news to be communicated to the East India Company. Newcastle will be very glad if he can be of service.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. APRIL 18, 1744. RECEIVED JANUARY 1, 1745, FORWARDED BY CAPTAIN PEYTON. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 48, *pp.* 39–40 (*original* 2 *pp.*)]

In consequence of the War with France, His Majesty has appointed several ships-of-war to proceed to the East Indies. They will need stores and provisions, to purchase which they are to be supplied with money in exchange for bills on the Admiralty at the rate of 6*s.* 6*d.* per weighty dollar, payable at 30 days' sight. All assistance is to be given them, and the officers are to be treated with all due civility and respect.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JUNE 29, 1744. [*Letter Book, Vol.* 26, *pp.* 184–185 (*India Office transcript*)]

Cite despatch of April 10. Acknowledge the receipt of despatch, dated September 26, 1743 [*Wanting.* Probably the despatch referred to in Consultation, September 22, 1743 (Calendar of the Madras Records, 1740–44, p. 393)]. This goes by the *Northampton* bound for Bombay and China. Should she be forced to put into Madras, she is to be despatched for China with such of her English lading as the supercargoes judge suitable for Canton and with silver to make a total cargo of Rs. 2,60,000.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1744-1745.

DESPATCH FROM NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. JANUARY 8, 1745. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 14, *pp.* 49-51 (*copy* 3 *pp.*)]

This despatch will go by a Danish ship. Received the Company's letter of April 10, 1744, with news of the declaration of War with France, by the *Swift* on September 5. The *King William* reached Bombay September 10. On January 1 received letter from the Secret Committee of Directors, dated April 18, 1744, forwarded by Peyton from Achin, where he arrived November 23 and took the French ship the *Favoretta*. Peyton with the *Medway* and *Dolphin* parted company with Barnett in October some days after leaving Madagascar. China shipping news brought by a Macaoman which arrived yesterday. 4 Spanish ships reported to be cruizing in the Straits of Malacca to intercept English shipping. Bengal affairs. The Governor-General of Batavia received news of the War with France from Sumatra where the *Godolphin* arrived August 23.

DESPATCH FROM NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. FEBRUARY 15, 1745. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 14, *pp.* 53-137 (*copy* 85 *pp.*) (*Paper brittle and edges broken.*)]

Cite despatches of September 5, 1744, and January 8, 1745. Acknowledge the receipt of letters from the Secret Committee of March 23, 1744 (received by the *Beaufort* from Bengal January 18, 1745) and of April 18, 1744 (forwarded to Morse by Captain Peyton and received January 1, 1745). Shipping news. The *Durrington* and the *Beaufort* arrived from Bengal in January; and, as none of His Majesty's ships had appeared, were sent to Fort St. David with the *Benjamin* to take in bales, with a party of soldiers on each ship for their protection. They returned February 4, with 1,039 bales of piece-goods. Will not allow any but time-expired soldiers to go aboard the Europe ships. In order to encourage re-enlistment have shortened the term from five to three years, but have not reduced the gratuity. Will oblige Commanders entertaining lascars

to enter into a contract for their wages, etc. The large number of ships, and the shortage of the Bengal investment will probably prevent the sending of any surplus tonnage. The Company's country ships must be chiefly employed during the War in carrying supplies to Sumatra, especially as the English there are on ill-terms with Batavia. Bengal are sending 3 ships to fill with pepper at Tellicherry.

Hitherto when garnets have been sent to Europe as returns for coral, etc., it has been usual to register them and issue a permit to the Commander to receive them; but for the last two years Commanders have been demanding a formal order to receive them. It is hinted that such orders would entitle the ship-owners to demand freight, etc.; so the Company's directions are desired.

Complain of bad rice sent from Bengal for Sumatra. Having coined 50 chests of silver into rupees to be sent to Bengal by the *Godolphin* and *Wager* in place of the silver expected by those ships, will be forced to dispose of the rupees at Madras as the ships have not put in.

Would have enforced the Company's orders to sell broadcloth at outcry but for the permission to continue selling *en bloc* to the merchants till they have cleared off their balances. The accounts sent last year show that Tambi Chetti, Mahalinga Krishṅa, and Ponnappa Chetti still owed nearly 30,000 Pags. most of which can only be recovered by continuing to them the privilege of the broadcloth. There were two other reasons as well: (1) to induce Telisinga Chetti, etc., to take part in the investment, and (2) to prevent the merchants from demanding a higher rate of brokerage. Have again sold this year's broadcloth to the merchants for the same reasons. Two-thirds of the profits on the broadcloth will be paid directly into the Company's cash; and the maintenance of the brokerage at the old rate must be set against 'the small gratification of the other third.' Do not believe the merchants prefer high profits to a large sale, as the Company supposes. Some years ago, when the indent was for 1,000 bales, Tambi Chetti made a trial and lost money by it.

Are grateful for the guns sent. Indent for more guns and small-arms, which are needed as the out-factories have made considerable demands. The Madeira wine is better than last year's, but far inferior to that formerly sent. 100 pipes would suffice in ordinary years, but as the Squadron will be here, 150 should have been sold. The copper sent by the *York* sold well, but was thought ill of 'in the inland countries.' As however it might

serve the Ganjam market, the remainder (100 candies) was put up for sale and fetched the former price. Copper sells badly in Bengal. Bengal being overstocked with lead, have landed that on the *Benjamin*. 700 candies were sold on February 6 at 13 Pags. 13 fns. 27 c. per candy.

Some merchants lately applied to Morse for 2 lakhs of Rupees on behalf of the Nawab; it was agreed to supply them at the current rate for ready money, in order to oblige the Nawab who has behaved handsomely to the English; but the affair has been broken off, as the Agent afterwards proposed to pay by order on the Collectors of the Province, a proposal he knew the English could not accept.

This year's investment is of good quality and as cheap as can be expected; and it includes a considerable quantity of salampores from Madras and Fort St. David. Have attempted to revive the manufacture of fine longcloth and salampores formerly made near Madras such as were always preferred to similar makes from other parts. Hope to provide more of these in the coming year. Maratha troubles early in the year prevented more than a few bales of Salem cloth being got; and Maratha designs on Trichinopoly may prevent any investment at Salem in the coming year. The French will not be able to do much, but Dutch contracts may hinder us. On reports from Vizagapatam and Ingeram that the French had stopped the English investment by raising their prices, it was thought better to raise the price of ordinary cloth rather than humour the merchants by taking in a larger proportion of fine cloth which the Company does not want. However nothing much can be expected so long as Nizam-ul-mulk sells the Government to the highest bidders who must plunder in order to pay their rents. This year business was stopped at Ingeram by the Nawab of Rajahmundry's attempting to make us buy timber. He imprisoned the Ingeram and Madapollam vakils till he had extorted a sum of money and so terrified the merchants that they fled. However he at last desisted and restored the money on repeated letters from Morse. Had given orders to take the timbers in case the Nawab would not give way, as that would have cost less than a prolonged stop of the investment.

The Coast investment consists of:—Madras 1,800 bales; Fort St. David 2,000; Vizagapatam 280; Ingeram 370; and Madapollam 150 —4,600 bales in all—a considerable quantity in view of the recent change of Government, Maratha troubles, and distracted state of the province. The Madras merchants have paid off 9,928 Pags. of

their debt. Regarding Chintadripet, the Manager, etc., represented that they could not provide goods without an advance, owing to the large balance due to them from the weavers and the death of the wealthy Adiyappa Narayanan. They promise to reduce their debt, and the weavers there have been permitted to work for the merchants of the Town, who can look after them more closely than the Council can. Have not pressed for the immediate discharge of the original loan of 3,000 Pags. made to found the village, as the buildings, etc., are ample security.

At Masulipatam the Faujdar detained on various pretexts 15 bales of coloured goods; but the Armenian Coja Mirza now reports that he has induced the Faujdar to release them. Owing to the fewness of the washers in the Washing Town at Madras, their pay has been slightly raised in the hopes of attracting more washers thither. The Northward factories have been desired to get their cloth 'cured' locally in order to relieve the pressure.

As cloth from the Northward may have to be brought down in country boats, have ordered it to be stamped only with 'Gentue characters' owing to the War. 800 bales have been brought down safely since advice of the French War was received.

Have placed 'tappey peons' from Madras to Ganjam; and understand Fort William have done the like from Ganjam to Balasore. As there are frequent disputes between the Moors and Hindus thereabouts, it was decided to keep a Resident at Ganjam, to prevent letters from being delayed. John Andrews was accordingly sent with instructions also to inquire into the weaving industry in those parts. He reports that there are 5,000 weavers at Berhampur and as many more in the neighbouring towns, and that he has obtained from the Nawab, etc., farmans and dastaks needed to carry on the Company's trade. Have directed him to procure ordinary longcloth and salampores, and provided him with 10,000 Rs. He will receive further sums if he can invest them.

Some Shiyali cloth (like that of Chennappanayakanpalaiyam but better) has been sent from Fort St. David. It is invoiced as 'Chennappanayakanpalaiyam' to avoid a multiplicity of names. There is need of great caution in accepting cloth worse than the Company's musters, as it is difficult to keep the weavers up to a good standard. As the investment can best be enlarged at Fort St. David, the Madras merchants for some time past have been forbidden to provide cloth to the southward.

To prevent thefts from boats carrying bales to the Europe ships, have made a practice of sending some of 'our gun-room

crew' on every boat. The baftas from the Bay will be painted and the sannoes bleached according to orders. Some Sadras chintz now sent is better worked than any yet seen.

The old Fort St. David merchants were allowed a year in which to clear off their balances in two equal instalments. After six months, they represented that they could pay nothing as they had not been able to settle their accounts. Having been summoned to Madras and settled their accounts amongst themselves, they now say that in the 7 years they served they provided investments totalling 700,000 Pags. and that, in spite of their heavy losses, they only owed 8,823 Pags. to the Company at the end of 1743, which they pray to be forgiven. Council agreed to recommend them to the Company's favour, but has demanded security for their abiding by the Company's orders.

Have already reported the appointment of Anwar-ud-din Khan as Nawab. Have succeeded in preserving all the Company's grants with no more expense than the usual present to a new Nawab. As Morse became President at nearly the same time, this present served also as a present on his accession. Will endeavour to conduct country affairs as successfully as Benyon, to whom is due the preference felt by the Moors for the English above all other European nations. In December Anwar-ud-din marched to join the Nawabs of Cuddapah and Kurnool against the Marathas; Nizam-ul-mulk has also sent 10,000 horse; but the Marathas are said to have the larger forces. Though the armies are near each other, no action has taken place. The Nawab offers a sum of money, but the Marathas demand Trichinopoly. If the latter should win a victory, the country will suffer severely both from them and from the poligars who always seize such occasions to plunder; so it is hoped the affair will be accommodated. Krishnaji Pantulu (who has been so friendly of late) died a few days ago. He had been entrusted with the Nawab's negotiations with the Marathas, but the fatigue of the journey was too great for his age. If opportunity arises, will show our gratitude to his family. Safdar Ali Khan's mother, etc., are still in Madras, but Council have reduced by half the expenditure on their account.

Regarding the *Jagannath Prasad*, it appears that she was owned by Gopinath, a Company's merchant at Balasore, with respondentia on her belonging to Davis and Cotesworth (Company's servants). When she was wrecked near Vizagapatam, Thomas Pitt (Resident at Uppada) reported that she was English-owned to Stratton (Chief of Vizagapatam) who thereon got the Nawab's farmans for her salvage. Pitt however offered the local Raja one-third of the

salvage for his assistance; on which the Nawab imprisoned Pitt till he paid out of the Company's money 1,700 Madras Pags. though the whole salvage was much less. Pitt has since died and the Nawab has been succeeded by another. The Council cannot decide how far the fact that the ship carried English respondentia entitles them to redress.

On January 16 Mme. Schonamille, wife of the Chief of the Ostend Company, arrived and asked to be allowed to reside here. Leave was refused as Schonamille is at open war with the Moors and has taken several Masulipatam ships. He also writes that he intends going to Pegu with 300 Europeans and settling that place 'in such a manner that no Europeans should be admitted without the approbation of the English.' Believe he hopes thereby to secure the admission of his shipping to Madras, but consider that that would be unwise. Cannot judge the justice of Schonamille's cause, but his people are a mixture of the worst of all nations, likely to take to evil courses.

Desire the Company's orders in case a ship's Captain should refuse to give up a prize on the Council's demand. Hope, now that the restrictions on the Persia trade are removed, that the English will be able to compete with the French, etc.; but the Persia factors are sure to make complaints, however undeserved.

Enclose copy of a letter from Dupleix to the Faujdar of St. Thomé with the latter's answer sent to Morse by the Faujdar. Dupleix has also written to the Moorish officers at Covelong and Arcot, in order to throw on the English the odium of having opened the War in Indian seas, and persuade them that this will endanger the Moghal's trade. He has lately sent the *Neptune* with 500 bales to Mocha with the Nawab's pass and colours, having made 'a pretended sale' of her to a Muhammadan, hoping to involve us in difficulties should she be taken.

As Knipe is dead, will take Smith's advice about the projected fortifications on the west side of the Town. Believe Knipe did not sufficiently test the nature of the ground; and it is possible that the place may be made equally secure at less cost. Will send plans in September. Desire 'a large recruit' as there are few Europeans; and topasses cannot be relied on either behind walls or in the open. On Smith's advice are building a new magazine, at a cost of 4,100 Pags. and hope to finish it this year. Have also enlarged the powder-factory on the Island so as to have four stamps at work instead of two. As Vizagapatam desire a battery built by the sea-side, have sent a man to make a plan of the defences there, so that Smith can advise what should be done.

The sea customs have declined owing to the lessened import of grain caused by the troubles to the northward and the scarcity in Bengal. 2,000 garse less was imported in 1743-44 than in 1742-43. Luckily the last two harvests in the neighbouring country have been good. The stoppage of the Manilla trade by the War, has reduced the land customs, and the shipping in the port is likely to fall away during the War. The Town-mint customs have increased, but the customs of the Chintadripet mint have declined. Great difficulties have been caused in the mint by the loss of the *aqua fortis* on board the *Winchester*. A small quantity was obtained from Negapatam. The shroffs with the Nawab's permission coined in various mints 5,000 Pags. of the same touch as ours, but they have not obtained currency; none but the English pagodas are in esteem at present. Have not yet received the revenues of the 4 new villages for 1743, but expect to receive the 1744 revenues as soon as the corn is gathered. The grant was for 5 villages, but the Killedar of Poonamallee refused to surrender Pudupauk unless another village was given him instead, which has not been done.

Many military in hospital. The servants allowed the officers have been taken off, and an allowance made to Lieutenants of 5 Pags. a month, while the Ensigns' pay has been increased to 13 Pags. Have paid Smith 140 Rs. a month according to the Company's orders to Bombay. He acts as Gunner, and is very sober and diligent.

Banks sent to Madapollam *vice* Andrews sent to Ganjam. Croke returns thanks for the gratuity allowed him. Have not yet been able to draw out a statement of the merchants' balances. Forward John Andrews' covenant as writer and those of George Jones and Samuel Barlow as free merchants; will send later those of Andrew Munro (who is on a voyage) and William Percival. Stratton, having left Vizagapatam owing to ill-health, is unwilling to return both for reasons of health and as the Board appointed another Chief. Samuel Harrison has received leave to go to England for his health which suffered from his journey to Trichinopoly on the Company's service. Recommend him to the Company should he desire to return to India. Edward Fowke appointed Storekeeper and of Council; Richard Starke Upper-searcher at the Sea-Gate; Joseph Fowke Under-searcher; Charles Savage Norris Sub-Accountant. Samuel Harrison, and his two children, Lieutenant Southby, and a son of Mr. Savage go home on the *Durrington*; Mrs. Hannah Greenhaugh, Mr. Stratton's son, and Captain Timothy Tullie, his wife and 2 children, on the *Beaufort*.

2,880 Pags. have been received on account of Joseph Goddard's debt to the Company; it is now reduced to 500 Pags. and will be almost if not wholly paid off when the rest of his debts are collected.

Sumatra affairs.

The Mayor's Court have proposed a by-law limiting the institution of suits on bonds to a period of ten years from the time when the cause of action shall have arisen. Suits are often brought on old bonds which have been paid but by negligence not cancelled. Recommend confirmation of the proposal.

Besides the 4 ships whose arrival at Pondichery was reported in the last despatch, the *Charmant* has also arrived with silver and stores. Loss of the *St. Géran* off Mascareign with $ 55,000; only 8 persons saved out of 200 aboard. In October the *Bourbon* sailed for Europe with 530 bales of cloth, coffee and redwood. The *Charmant* sailed to take in pepper at Mahé, having 250 bales of cloth aboard and some redwood.

In November Dupleix wrote about a projected treaty of neutrality between Mahé and Tellicherry. As the matter had been referred to Bombay and would certainly be negatived there, it was thought prudent to affect a readiness to concur if the project was approved at Bombay, to secure English shipping bound for Tellicherry. But when another letter was received offering extensive proposals by order of the French Company, Council replied that they lacked powers to enter into such treaty. After the *Favori* was taken in Achin road, Dupleix protested against the English action, but hitherto the French have committed no hostilities. Their brigantine, the *St. Joseph*, has been 'cut off' at Benjar. The Dutch lay the blame on the English, but it is hoped that it was due solely to Malay treachery.

Since the Dutch were driven out of Porto Novo by the Marathas, their Chief has resided at Cuddalore; when Nizam-ul-mulk was beseiging Trichinopoly they tried to get his leave to build a fort at Porto Novo; and they have now offered the Nawab a present if he will allow them to do so. Hope they will fail as such a settlement might injure Fort St. David.

As the Secret Committee on the news of the French War ordered Morse to send a small vessel on a private expedition, he had to purchase the *Eltham*—the only ship available. In order to be able to provision the Squadron, have laid in a stock of 'live provisions' and sent to Bengal and Bombay for wheat. Cattle have been collected at Fort St. David also. Special accommodation has been arranged for sick sailors, as the Hospital even now is too small.

Supplement: Have laded 500 bags of saltpetre as surplus freight on the *Durrington* to 'stiffen' her. Increase their indent for broadcloth from 450 to 600 bales. Have laded 1,643 bales of cloth on these ships. Their Madras goods are invoiced at 269,210 Pags. The Commanders' adventures amount to 8,187 Rs. from Bengal and 3,403 Pags. from Madras. Diamonds registered amount to 171,798 Pags. The balance in cash is 37,373 Star and 1,504 Madras Pags. Recent shipping news.

Postscript: Bills, etc., drawn on the Company for 60,058 Pags.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. DECEMBER 21, 1744. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 49, *pp.* 195–199 *(copy* 4½ *pp.)*]

Cite despatch of June 29, 1744. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches, dated September 19, 1743, January 16, February 10 and March 1, 1744 [*The last wanting.*] The papers and private letters sent by the *Duke* were torn to pieces owing to the box not being full. The packets must be filled up with cotton and covered with wax-cloth both inside and outside the boxes. Have built the *Dolphin* (destined for Madras and Bengal) and taken up 12 other ships of which 5 are destined for Madras and Bengal and 1 for Madras and China. All the silver on the Madras and Bengal ships is consigned to Madras, and what can be spared must be forwarded as soon as possible to Bengal. The Madras and China ship is to be laded with merchandise and Mexico dollars to the total value of £31,000, exclusive of what is consigned by her to China from England; and in case there is more tonnage than can be filled from Madras and Bengal, a ship may be laded with 'gruff' goods and silver to the total value of £18,000 and sent to Canton likewise. There is at present a brisk demand for calicoes in Europe; so a large quantity of longcloth and salampores should be secured, preferably of the cheaper qualities. Foreign silver, etc., licensed for the purchase of diamonds. Moses Salomons, Ephraim Isaac, Thomas Raitt, James Twiss, Jacob Moses Helbutt, and James Gay permitted to reside in India as free merchants. Purchase of coffee at Mocha. 150 pipes of Madeira will be sent to Madras by the *Lincoln*. Prize goods taken by His Majesty's ships fit for the Europe market may be bought at anything less than 10% under cost price, and what cannot be paid for in cash may be bought with bills at 6 months' or longer sight. All assistance to be given to His Majesty's Captains in disposing of prizes. Silver may be bought of them @ 5*s.* 6*d.* per ounce with bills of exchange. Bills may also be granted for any money paid in on account of Richard Benyon.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JANUARY 4, 1745. [*Letter Book, Vol.* 26, *pp.* 228–229 *(India Office transcript)*]

If a full lading of tea cannot be procured for one of the China ships at 9 or 10 tael a pecul, she will be filled up with tutenague, sugar, etc., and sent to Madras. In that case her Madras cargo is to be sold at outcry, and bales and saltpetre put aboard her instead. Certificates to be granted to ships' Captains for money paid in either in payment of respondentia loans or as the produce of their outward adventure. Have taken up an extra ship—the *Princess Mary*.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JANUARY 25, 1745. [*Letter Book, Vol.* 26, *pp.* 245–246 *(India Office transcript)*]

Now write by the *Dolphin* and *Kent*. Have entertained Philip Bulkley and George Jones as factors, and Edmund Maskelyne as writer. As Jones is at Madras, send covenants for him to execute; he must find friends to give security for him in £1,000.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. FEBRUARY 7, 1745. [*Letter Book, Vol.* 26, *pp.* 278–283 *(India Office transcript)*]

Approve of advancing money to the *Salisbury* though she was not consigned to Madras. As several ships lately have put into Vizagapatam instead of Madras, inquiry to be made into their private trade there, and the usual duties to be collected there on all goods landed or shipped. Short deliveries from the Europe ships will be settled with the owners. The heavy war demurrage necessitates ships being despatched to Europe as quickly as possible. As it is likely there will be more tonnage than can be laded home, the cargoes should not exceed £70,000 or £80,000 each.

The tonnage taken up will admit of sending out only two-thirds of the woollen goods indented for. None but the Company's silver to be coined into Arcot rupees, lest it should offend the Country Government. As the merchants have been so long indulged with the broadcloth, their balances should be cleared off by now; what may be still outstanding should be recovered without delay. In order to be better able to follow the markets, desire in future the broadcloth to be sold at public outcry. Coarse cloths this year are dearer by 10*s*. to 15*s*. each, but the qualities sent are better, as the common sorts cannot be got. Long ells are dearer by 2*s*. each.

The small number of bales received this season was a great disappointment. If the 2½ % brokerage now allowed is not inducement enough, it should either be increased or contracts made with substantial merchants at fair prices. In order to omit nothing that may encourage the investment, the merchants may still receive the broadcloth as before (despite what is said above) if the Council consider that will excite them to promote the Company's interests. A statement of each merchant's account should be obtained yearly from the subordinate factories, so that those who fall in arrears may be discovered and checked. When the factory-books are annually balanced, each merchant is to give a written acknowledgment that the balance of his account up to that day amounts to such and such a sum due to or from the Company.

Trust that the large presents made to Nizam-ul-mulk, etc., will produce commensurate benefits; on no account is money to be lent to the Country powers. Approve the promise of 150 Pags. for the release of English prisoners in Ceylon and hope it was successful. Observe that the Town-wall is nearly finished, so that by now all the works should be complete and the place in a good posture of defence. Consent to the completion of the Fort St. David defences at a cost of 1,400 Pags. The residence of the late Nawab's family at Madras has been costly; such guests should be avoided in future. Are gratified at the reduction of expenses by 6,600 Pags. and the increase of revenues by 6,900 Pags. Means should be taken to prevent the servants of Muhammadan nobles from running betel and tobacco to the injury of the revenues.

Unless the Northern Chiefs (Saunders, Prince and Hallyburton) are perfectly capable, one of Council should be sent Chief to Vizagapatam (as was usual) to conduct the investment in those parts. Send blank covenants to be executed by the servants who have come of age. As Hollard was entrusted with mathematical instruments belonging to the Company, the pay due to him should not be delivered to de Gingins till the instruments are accounted for. Consent to allowing the Mayor's Court 50 Pags. a month in lieu of the revenues appropriated to it; but desire the Council's views on the arrangement that was made some years ago with the Mayor's Court at Calcutta. 'The Church must never be independent of the State, nor the French suffered to intermeddle in our affairs'; so approve the proceedings about Father Severini. Statements of quick stock should include balances due from the merchants at subordinate factories and unexpended stores. Stratton was indebted to the Company when he left Vizagapatam; this must be recovered. Nothing has been said lately about Goddard's debt

though the Madapollam books show 5,883 Pags. as still owing. Acquiesce in the allowances granted to Randall Fowke on his resignation. Mrs. Gyfford's allowance of 15 Pags. a month may be continued to her if she is an object of charity. Have entertained George Drake as a writer. Father Severini may pay into the Company's cash any sum up to 6,000 Pags. on account of money left to found a Hospital for Female Orphans at Madras; and he is to be paid 6%.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. FEBRUARY 20, 1745. [*Letter Book, Vol.* 26, *p.* 310 *(India Office transcript)*]

On the *Dolphin's* arrival, she is to be unladed at once, and sent with 15 chests of treasure to Canton, in addition to the 2 ships already ordered to be sent on thither. She is to be returned to Europe with a cargo of cheap tea—two-thirds green and one-third Bohea—'with a flooring of chinaware.'

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. MARCH 20, 1745. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 49, *pp.* 187–189 *(original* 3 *pp.) There is also a copy at pp.* 7—9 *of the volume.*]

Cite despatch of February 7. This goes by the *Princess Mary*, with 35 chests of treasure and merchandise. As much of the silver as can be spared must be forwarded to Bengal. No broad long ells sent, as indents arrived too late. Had not tonnage for two-thirds of the woollen goods indented for. All torn or damaged cloth must be sold for what it will fetch instead of being sent to England. Have allowed the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge to send out Klein and Breithaupt to carry on 'that good work.' Require more detailed returns of the ammunition, etc., in store, and the returns must be arranged under the same heads as the indents. As there is usually a deficiency in the weight of lead, iron, copper and ivory sent out from England, give details of mode of weighment. When broadcloth is mildewed, the mildew may be got rid of by opening it and letting the sun warm it through. The muster-rolls of ships' companies on despatch for England must certify that there are no undischarged soldiers aboard. Hyde Parker, an Ensign at Fort St. David, to be promoted to the first lieutenancy vacant if his conduct is satisfactory. In future no advances are to be made to the merchants except in Council and be entered on the Consultations. If John Stratton has discharged his debt, he may be restored to his standing at Madras.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1745–1746.

DESPATCH FROM NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. JULY 3, 1745. RECEIVED OVERLAND, MARCH 25, 1746. [*Coast and Bay Abstracts, Vol.* 5, *p.* 40 *(India Office transcript)*]

'None of the Europe ships are yet arrived. Nabob a few days since returned to Arcot having obliged the Morattaes to repass the Kistna whereby shall be able to make a considerable investment. . . . [Bengal affairs]. Commodore Barnett was cruizing 26th June off Fryers Hood. *Lively* man-of-war join'd him at Batavia 8th April.'

DESPATCH FROM NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. SEPTEMBER 14, 1745. RECEIVED PER DOLPHIN, JUNE 16, 1746. [*Coast and Bay Abstracts, Vol.* 5, *p.* 40 *(India Office transcript)*]

The *Dolphin* arrived August 17, too late for her intended voyage. Shipping news. 'All the Company's affairs are in good order.'

DESPATCH FROM NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. SEPTEMBER 24, 1745. RECEIVED JUNE 16, 1746. [*For paragraphs* 1 *to* 43 *of the despatch : Coast and Bay Abstracts, Letters Received, Vol.* 5, *pp.* 40–46 *(India Office transcript). For the remaining portion of the despatch : Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 15, *pp.* 1—18 *(copy* 18 *pp.) Damaged.*]

Cite despatches of February 15, July 3, and September 14. This goes by the *Benjamin*. Acknowledge the receipt of the Company's several despatches and the Secret Committee's letter of May 14 [*Wanting*].

Shipping news. Stores and provisions for the Squadron have arrived from Bengal. The *Mermaid* built at Bombay arrived on May 13 and proceeded to Vizagapatam. The *Eltham* was sold with little loss for 1,500 Pags. 695 bales brought up from Fort St. David. The *Dolphin* which arrived too late for China, has been returned to Europe. Presume that the *London* should proceed to China

with the supercargoes. 3 French ships for China passed the Sunda Straits on August 7.

Sold 120 candies of copper at Pags. 83-10-40. Sent 5 candies to Ganjam where 100 can be disposed of yearly. Were able to remit to Bengal 44,036 Madras and 64,000 Arcot Rs.; but as no further supplies arrived, had to take up money at interest. Some of the *Dolphin's* silver sold at 14¾ dollars per 10 Pags. Both Madras and Bengal are much distressed for money. Provided 4,600 bales last year; now have 3,000 more. Wood being scarce, timbers forced on Ingeram were sold without loss. Received from Bengal, the guns and part of the broadcloth by the *Wager*. Owing to great demand for mohurs, it is difficult to sell silver. As few rupees are at present being sent to Bengal, gold is scarce. Though little silver has been imported yet the price is low. All woollen goods will be cleared in two months. Have no lead or iron and are in great need of stores, having not so much as a barrel of pitch or tar.

Agreed with Tirumangalam for fine goods at an abatement; but the Marathas, harassing the country whence thread is brought, seized and set fire to 1,000 ox-load of cotton and thread. So it was impracticable to lower the ordinary goods. They are plundering the country to Arcot and Lalapet. However 1,200 bales have been brought in. At Fort St. David, Andiyappa contracted to bring in 2,000 salampores; and Narayana Chetti 800. They have brought in 1,400 at last year's price. At Vizagapatam, the Dutch gave great prices for a bad manufacture intended for some market in India being too bad for Europe. Vizagapatam have provided 200 bales. Expect from Ingeram 400 bales and frŏm Madapollam 200, but the Government [is] very bad in those parts. Ganjam provided 70 bales. Send coloured goods from Masulipatam. Complained of the Faujdar to the Nizam. Have paid the bill from Anjengo for 5,000 Rs. The Marathas after plundering the open towns and villages returned in April. Received letters from the Nawab that the Moghal's pass was granted to natives and strangers, and forbidding their ships to be molested. Replied if the French made use of such passes and colours they would nevertheless be made prizes. Haji Hadi was sent to explain several matters to the Nawab. On Commodore Barnett's Squadron appearing, the Nawab expressly forbad hostilities on land. To this, promised a due regard with reserve to men-of-war for whose conduct the Council could not be accountable. He then wrote that no hostilities should be committed by the ships of war in the roads of Pondichery and

Karikal, and a neutrality observed in the Moghal's ports. Could not submit to this. On marriage of his daughter he sent the President a horse and saropa, and the like to the Governor of Pondichery. The latter returned a present of 3,000 Pags. for late services; but the former judged one of less value sufficient, viz., 50 gold mohurs and a service of plate worth about 350 Pags. The Nawab visited St. Thomè and Pondichery. Thence he went on to Fort St. David and Udaiyarpalaiyam. His tour seeming in some measure calculated to raise contributions of European nations, we were obliged to make him presents. Stopped Captain Norton proceeding in a sloop to Pegu with stores and liquors for Ostenders. Schonamille is reported to be cut off near Pegu. Captain Robert Norton of the *Ramsunkar* was designed for [Pegu] with liquor and stores which must have been intended for Schonamille's party. Norton entered into a bond not to go thither lest the Moors should make this a pretext for troubling us. Later on news came that Schonamille and 100 of his men had been cut off near Pegu, that 50 more had been taken by the Arakanese, and that the rest had gone to Malacca or Batavia.

Have decided on a plan for fortifying the west side of the Town and actually begun on the work; will send an estimate of the cost in January. The Town will be somewhat enlarged and well secured. Two new bastions will be built instead of the Mint and Charles Points, which are so cracked as to be useless. At Fort St. David, the Devanampattanam and Bandipalaiyam godowns will be rebuilt as they are too small and infested with white ants. The S. W. bastion of Fort St. David, which was sometime since washed down in a flood, is to be rebuilt. A plan of the Vizagapatam works has been obtained, but Smith has not yet had time properly to consider it. One small battery will be rebuilt, and the house repaired.

The Betel and Tobacco and other farms were put up to outcry, but were bought in, owing to the lowness of the bids. The late farmers of Betel and Tobacco lost considerably because many Moors now reside in the Town and their servants smuggled large quantities in. People are also alarmed by the unsettled state of the country. Council will do its best to prevent a decline of the revenues.

John Graham has died at Fort St. David indebted to the Company. Holt has been appointed to succeed him, and Thomas Cooke, Junior, has been appointed of Council there. 4 Company's servants for Madras on the *Wager*, which carried them to Batavia,

apply for allowances in consideration of their great expense in reaching Madras. Trenwith has arrived from Bengal, but Orme is still there. Charles Savage Norris died on June 29; Charles Hopkins appointed Sub-Accountant on 10 Pags. a month, as no junior servant was competent for the post.

More bills of exchange on Sultan David have been forwarded from Bombay on account of Company's woolen sales in Persia; but like the former one, have been refused and protested.

Sumatra affairs.

The Mayor's Court has not yet reported what it has done about establishing an Accountant-General.

In the beginning of June the French were reported to be making great preparations; men were said to be expected from the French Islands; Dupleix marched out with gunners, ammunition and scaling-ladders; boats were got ready, and mortars fixed on large catamarans for embarkation. The *Success* galley and *Mermaid* were therefore sent to Fort St. David, to bring up the bales there to Madras if Hinde thought necessary. Before they reached Fort St. David, Hinde sent advice that the French were actually manning their boats; but on the appearance of the *Success* they laid aside the expedition. 275 bales were sent up on the *Success*. At Madras the inhabitants were called together and arms delivered to them; and 200 Poligars' peons were entertained till news arrived of Barnett's being off Ceylon with the Squadron. It was afterwards learnt that the French were going to relieve Karikal which was surrounded by the Tanjoreans; but as the *Mermaid* lay off Fort St. David, they did not care to venture their men by sea; and as they could only reach the Fort overland after defeating the enemy, they offered terms to Tanjore and a suspension of arms followed. The *Success* and *Mermaid* have since brought up 520 bales more from Fort St. David.

By request of the Viceroy of Manilla, Dupleix has sent him munitions of war by a Danish ship, which is believed to be laded in part with French goods. This is the first Danish ship to sail to Manilla; the Danes say they have got leave from the King of Spain to send a ship there yearly. Since the *Favori* was taken, the French have done their best to incite the Country powers against us; especially since the *Muhammad Shah* (their Manilla ship) was taken, they have kept agents at Arcot endeavouring to procure a demand for the restoration of the ship and cargo; as several of our friends about the Nawab had made loans to the French, they naturally took the French side; but when the Nawab was given

a full state of the case, and was made sensible that the French presents could not counterbalance the losses that would arise from a breach with the English, he saw that the French were intent only on their own interests and 'resolved to engage no farther with them than would suit his own purposes.' A ship has reached Mahé from the Islands, and it is said at Pondichery that 6 ships are coming out escorted by 4 men-of-war. If true, 3 of them may be those gone to China.

Have contracted with victuallers at Madras for supplying the Squadron on condition they will take over the provisions already bought by the Paymaster. Provisions from Bengal, etc., have already been forwarded to the Squadron ; and as 2 ships have been sent to Bengal for provisions, and as others may go on to the Malabar coast next year, it is not likely that Madras will be called on to furnish much. Barnett sent the *Dolphin* to cruise to the northward and escort vessels with the Company's bales hither. As many of her crew were sick at Fort St. David, and many had died at Batavia, she had not above a third of her complement ; so an Ensign and 50 men were sent aboard her. She met with none of the expected ships, as those from Madapollam and Ingeram were detained 'by the oppression of the Government.' Barnett would willingly have sold his China prizes to the English ; but accepted the offers made him at Batavia, partly because he was not sure of the Company's intentions, and partly because of the risk and delay in bringing the prizes to Madras. The Dutch offers were very poor ; and it is believed that in future prizes will be sold in the Company's ports.

It is reported that the privateers *Fame* and *Winchelsea* have engaged with the Governor-General of Batavia to escort 2 or 3 Dutch vessels on a trading voyage into the South Seas ; the stock is £150,000, half provided by the Dutch Company and half by the city of Batavia. The privateers are to receive 20% on the gross sales.

Wish the Company's orders about Barnett, etc.'s reception had been more explicit. The only houses for their reception either here or at Fort St. David are the Governor's and Deputy Governor's ; and these have been granted for their use, as was formerly done to Commodore Matthews.

Supplement : The French Mocha ship is said to have carried a cargo of coffee to the Islands. The price averaged 104 Spanish dollars the bahar. Shipping news. The *Benjamin's* cargo is invoiced at 123,024 Pags. ; diamonds, etc., registered by her 41,072 Pags. ;

her Commander's homeward adventure 2,746 Pags. Balance in cash 14,853 Pags.

Postscript:—Bills drawn on the Company for £2,235.

Appended are;—(1) register of diamonds per *Benjamin*; (2) register of diamonds per *Dolphin* (20,810 Pags.); (3) account produce of coral, etc., for which remittances are now made; (4) manifest of private trade on the *Benjamin*; (5) sailing orders of the *Benjamin*; and (6) list of the packet.

DESPATCH FROM NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. SEPTEMBER [25], 1745. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 15, *p.* 31 (*copy* 1 *p.*)]

Enclose first of exchange on the Navy Victualling Board for £4,838 in payment of 10,092 Pags. (reckoned at 14¾ dollars per 10 Pags. and 6*s.* 6*d.* per dollar) for salt provisions sent out by the *Benjamin* and others supplied at Madras.

DESPATCH FROM NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. OCTOBER 6, 1745. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 15, *pp.* 32-37 (*copy* 6 *pp.*) *Damagea.*]

As the *Dolphin* could not be sent to China, she is now returned with bales. She has been given an additional quantity of saltpetre as kintledge. 20 bales have arrived from Ganjām, 285 from Vizagapatam and 434 from Ingeram. Expect to have near 4,000 bales by January. Considerable shortage of money as ships have failed to put into Madras. Have written to Bengal regarding the need of sending treasure here.

The Nawab has ordered a new pagoda of 80 touch to be coined at Alambarai, and has desired it to be received at Madras. Council intend to answer excusing themselves till assured that the standard will be maintained. Several attempts of this sort have already failed; the credit of the Sarkar's mints is low; and this attempt is not likely to affect the Star Pagoda. The Dutch have been attempting to imitate 'our pagoda of three images called the Madras', just as the French formerly did; but the shroffs detected them at once, and they were all returned and melted down.

Are sending redwood to Bengal. Randall Fowke and Mrs. Catherine [Gyfford] died on October 1, and the Rev. [James] Feild the next day.

The *Dolphin's* cargo is invoiced at 80,966 Pags.; diamonds registered by her since the despatch of the *Benjamin*, 16,472 Pags.; balance in cash 14,571 Star and 841 Madras Pags.

Appended are:—(1) letter to St. Helena covering an invoice of stores sent; (2) register of diamonds; (3) account produce of coral for which remittances are now made; (4) manifest of private trade on the *Dolphin*; (5) sailing orders; (6) list of the packet; and (7) list of the Company's revenues at Madras, totalling 64,786 Pags.

DESPATCH FROM NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. OCTOBER 17, 1745. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 15, *p.* 48 (*copy* 1 *p.*)]

This despatch sent overland *viâ* Aleppo as the quickest route. The investments at Madras and in Bengal are so considerable that an early supply of funds is needed.

DESPATCH FROM NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. DECEMBER 23, 1745. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 15, *pp.* 49-50 (*copy* 2 *pp.*)]

This despatch sent to Tellicherry to be forwarded by the shipping from Bombay. On December 11 the *Royal George*, *Scarborough*, *Kent*, *Lincoln*, and *Admiral Vernon* arrived under convoy of the *Harwich* and *Winchester*. This supply of money is very welcome. Shall lade the *Kent* and *Admiral Vernon* at Madras and send the others to Bengal.

The Marathas are said to have accepted Nizam-ul-mulk's offer of 7 lakhs of rupees for this province; hope this proves true, so that the country (and the investment) may not be disturbed.

DESPATCH FROM NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. JANUARY 31, 1746. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 15, *pp.* 51-87 (*copy* 37 *pp.*) *Damaged.*]

Acknowledge the receipt of the Company's despatch dated February 7, 1745. Customs shall be collected at Vizagapatam on whatever goods may be landed there out of the Europe ships and the Company shall be informed of the cotton goods the Commanders may lade there for Bengal. Arrangements were made for the due despatch of Europe ships should they have made the Coast at Vizagapatam. Shipping news. The *Princess Augusta* believed to have been taken by Angria off Cochin. She was in charge of the Chief mate who in his last trip took up much of the ship with his private trade. Have resolved to dismiss him. The *Kent* proving leaky has been sent to Bengal for repair. 150 bales have been laded on the *Admiral Vernon* and she has been sent to Fort St. David

to be filled up. The *Lincoln* will be laded at Madras. 70 bales of cloth have arrived from Vizagapatam, and more are expected; 351 bales have come from Ingeram, and 158 from Madapollam.

Morse lately received a letter from the Nawab forbidding us to coin Arcot rupees in our own mint. Luckily all the silver for Bengal had already been coined, as our Arcot rupee is there preferred to those of the Sarkar mints, though the latter are of a higher touch. Believe the Nawab's demand is occasioned by the cessation of silver imports from Manilla, Basra and the Red Sea since the outbreak of War; this has decreased his revenues and made him less inclined to favour us in this respect.

Tambi Chetti, etc., have paid in 5,000 Pags. in part of their debt, with the assistance of their profits on the broadcloth. Doubt if the whole will ever be recovered but will do their best.

The shipping was unable to take in all the Madeira wine ordered for Madras and Bengal; 40 pipes have been sold @ 55 Pags. the pipe. Copper and lead selling poorly in Bengal, have landed the Bengal consignments on two of the ships and part of the lead consigned thither on a third; 1,000 candies of lead have been sold @ 13 Pags. 22 fns. 67 c. per candy, and 260 candies of copper @ 83 Pags. 3 fns. 16 c. 105 chests of silver have been coined and 2 lakhs of Madras and 6·8 lakhs of Arcot Rs. have been forwarded to Bengal; this is about half the total received, and more cannot be spared, as 2 ships failed to call here last year, which has also occasioned great shortage of stores—medicines for Hospital and *acqua fortis* for the Mint.

The lucky arrival of the Europe ships removed all need to reduce the investment for lack of funds. But should this year's shipping also be hindered, there will be great difficulties in supplying money. Have not yet had time to discuss the coming investment. Propose to encourage the merchants by delivering to them the broadcloth on the terms the Company directs. The merchants have undergone many losses, and it has become difficult to engage men of character and substance in the Company's business; nor are there many such now in Madras, for the destruction of Saadat-ul-lah Khan's family, the frequent incursions of the Marathas, and Nizam-ul-mulk's expedition to Trichinopoly, 'have made terrible havock among the chief families, and more especially the shroffs of whom there are scarce any of note left.'

When a shortage of money was expected, wrote to Bombay and Bengal; the former offered to meet bills to the amount of 4 lakhs of rupees if we had occasion for them. Would have been glad to

draw bills to that amount but could find no shroffs capable of negotiating so large a sum.

167 bales of salempores have been received in all from Ganjam; the cloth is inferior to that made at Vizagapatam; but as the manufacture has only been revived lately, it may be expected to improve. Hallyburton (Resident at Madapollam) has requested to be recalled, worn out with the ill-treatment of the Country Government. The factory lies between two different jurisdictions, and the oppressions have become so severe that no advances can be made 'without extreme hazard.' As ordinary Madapollams are really made in the Ingeram country, are awaiting Hallyburton's and Saunders' arrival to decide whether or no to close the factory, or at least to appear to do so. The timber still remaining of what was forced upon the Madapollam and Ingeram factories will be sent down to Madras.

Nizam-ul-mulk's failure to fulfil his promises after the considerable presents made him [at Trichinopoly] shows how little reliance can be placed in him. Namat-ul-lah Khan has written to Morse agreeing to present our complaint to the Nizam provided we send gifts suitable for so great a man; but it has been decided to spare further expense.

The revolution in Pegu seems to have destroyed all prospect of recovering the trade there for some time, to the damage of the Company's customs and injury of Madras trade. The King of Kandy is willing to release the Englishmen who have been kept there so long; but they are unwilling to abandon their native wives and children. The King is at variance with the Dutch, and has forbidden betel-nut, pepper or grain to be carried down to their settlements; it is said he desires a seaport under his own control, but the Dutch will not suffer this.

When the Nawab was encamped at Tanjore, he was summoned by the Nizam to join the Nawabs of Cuddapah and Kurnool in occupying the Passes and preventing the Marathas from invading the province. As Anwar-ud-din fell sick, he summoned Mahfuz Khan from Trichinopoly to command his forces. It has been confidently reported that the Nizam intends to remove Anwar-ud-din, having received larger offers from another. It would agree with his nature to accept them, for he already sells the Northern provinces yearly to the highest bidders. 'The truth is that the Mogul Empire is in so confused and enervated a state that the authority of the Prince is totally slighted in the remoter provinces, and none among the officers of the Army in this now act by his commission.'

In view of the French War and threatened Maratha invasion, wish the Town works were completed; but the rains have been so heavy and prolonged that no progress has been made. Send a plan of the proposed works. The design is to make the defences of the White Town regular and strong; those of the Black Town are too extensive to be defended by the garrison against a numerous enemy. The completion of the ditch and fausse braye at Fort St. David will cost more than was expected. The expense of the late Nawab's family still continues, but at a reduced rate; had he survived, it would have been amply repaid. As Dost Ali Khan's widow does not care to trust herself or her wealth in a Moor's Government, the expense is likely to continue.

The Betel and Tobacco farm has been let at the old rate of 10,000 Pags. a year; the Measuring Duty at 1,000 Pags.; and the Town Brokerage at 800 Pags. The Fishing Farm (which would only have fetched 45 Pags.) has been abolished. The Council has promised the Betel and Tobacco farmers to assist in preventing smuggling. The paddy banksal being ruinous has been pulled down and the materials sold. The Banksal Duty has let for 5 years at 710 Pags., as the season is good and much paddy likely to be imported from inland. This is 110 Pags. a year more than the allowance paid to the Mayor's Court. Have bought a new godown and house adjoining it belonging to the late Randall Fowke, as they lay close to the Export Warehouse.

Send a plan of Fort St. David. The S. W. Bastion needs entire rebuilding. Wish nothing had ever been spent on Cuddalore, as it is undefended towards the sea, and weakens the Fort St. David garrison by multiplying its duties.

Have still received nothing for the revenues of the new villages for 1743, and think it wisest at present to overlook the matter; have received 761 Pags. in money and grain as their net produce for the year ending March 31, 1745; hope in time to be left in undisputed possession of them.

200 Pags. of Graham's debt were recovered last year. Will account with Captain Gingens for the mathematical instruments brought out by Hollard or recover their cost from the latter's pay. In September Stratton went to Vizagapatam to recover the balances due to him from the merchants, and his debt to that factory will be cleared off shortly. Joseph Goddard's estate has just sufficed to pay off his debt to the Company. Neither George Drake, Bulkeley nor Maskelyne has yet arrived.

Besides the 6,000 Pags. that Padre Severini proposes paying into the Company's cash towards a fund for a Female Orphan

Asylum, he reports that Madeiros has lately left near 15,000 Pags. for the same purpose. Advise its acceptance, as it cannot then be employed at Pondichery to injure the Company.

Stephen Lightfoot entertained as Surgeon's mate at Madras at 15 Pags. a month. Recommend Trenwith to be treated the same as the other writers who came out on the *Wager*. Joseph Fowke elected Mayor and Matthew Empson Sheriff.

Few Europeans in garrison here and at Fort St. David; need of large recruits, as French have been reinforced by captured ships' crews, etc., and may receive men from the Islands.

Have received accounts of the merchants' debts esteemed desperate at Ingeram and Madapollam. They were mostly contracted in Graham's and Goddard's time and are thought mostly due to the exactions of the Country Government.

Sumatra affairs.

A special Sheriff's seal has been made, as the private seals hitherto used to seal up sequestrated premises, etc., have not always been respected.

A French ship has been taking in at Mahé more provisions than she needs for her own use; possibly French ships are cruising for our Bombay vessels. The preparations made at Pondichery and the reinforcements received from Mahé and Karikal, greatly alarmed the inhabitants of Cuddalore. Barnett accordingly sent the *Deptford* thither; Lieutenant Gingens and 50 men were sent aboard her. The French have been expecting shipping for some time and fear it may be intercepted. Letters from Anjengo were lately stopped at Karikal and the bearers ill-treated; Dupleix has since returned the letters with apologies.

The Dutch have returned to Porto Novo and say they have leave to fortify their factory there; the Nawab however is said to have refused leave for this.

Faillet, who formerly lived at Madras and then at Manilla, appeared in April 1745 in the Straits of Malacca under a Spanish commission. He took a Bengal sloop (Aken master) and engaged the *Queen of Hungary* from Bengal, but the latter had aboard 40 of Schonamille's party and some French officers, and escaped though damaged. Faillet is believed to have returned home.

Peter Dencker and James Calvineer, having delivered 230 Pags.' worth of provisions to the Squadron, have been allowed to endorse the sum of their bond. Barnett wintered at Mergui and Achin, returned here December 17, and has sailed south

with the *Preston* and *Dolphin*. Desire salt provisions sent out for the Company's sloops which have occasionally to go on distant voyages at Barnett's request or otherwise. The Squadron has been largely supplied from Bengal and Madras; send bills on the Navy Victuallers for £1,287 for Bengal and £10,389 for Madras. Morse has expended 482 Pags. on the feeding of French prisoners put ashore at various times from the Squadron. Are sending 6 French prisoners on each ship despatched, as there are no English prisoners to exchange against them.

Supplement: The investment consists of 2,000 bales from Madras, 2,806 from Fort St. David, 475 from Vizagapatam, 785 from Ingeram, 369 from Madapollam and 167 from Ganjam—6,602 in all. After the despatch of the shipping about 1,200 bales will remain over. Send 2 bales of the sort of cloth the Dutch are providing at Bimlipatam. It is of poor quality, and if once accepted by the English, the latter would be unable to get more cloth such as they provide at present. The Managers of Chintadripet have provided 24 corge of chintz moorees (worth 984 Pags.) in part of their debt: the weavers there are employed by the Town merchants. Shipping news. As less broadcloth has been received this year than was indented for, desire an additional 300 bales. Fort William have drawn bills on Madras for 81,203 Arcot Rs. in favour of Barnett etc. captors of some French ships. This is embarrassing, for as much money as could be spared has been sent to Bengal already. On January 27 Morse heard from Hinde that Dupleix had sent 500 Europeans and 500 natives with mortars and field-pieces to the edge of the Fort St. David bounds. Morse at once notified Barnett, and has since heard that Barnett hove in sight and the French withdrew on the same day. Capture of the *Expedition* (14 guns, 57 men) by the *Medway* and *Lively* off the Nicobars. She is the ship already mentioned as putting into Mahé; she brought despatches from France in April 1745, and is 'a prime sailer.' The continuous rains have necessitated sending about 13 tons of cloth unbleached. The same may have to be done at Fort St. David. The amount of the *Admiral Vernon's* cargo will be reported from Fort St. David; that of the *Lincoln* is 145,720 Pags.; diamonds registered on the two ships 89,579 Pags.; balance in cash 36,748 Star and 359 Madras Pags.

Postscript: Bills of exchange and certificates drawn for 27,495 Pags.

Appended are:—(1) register of diamonds, etc.; (2) account produce of coral for which remittances are now made; (3) manifest of private trade; (4) list of the packet; and (5) sailing orders.

DESPATCH FROM JOHN HINDE, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. FEBRUARY 1, 1746. RECEIVED AUGUST 30, 1746. [*Factory Records, Fort St. David, Vol.* 10, *pp.* 5-6 (*India Office transcript*)]

Write by the *Admiral Vernon* which arrived from Madras January 18 to be filled for Europe. She already had her saltpetre, redwood, and 150 bales; and she has now been filled up. Her cargo is invoiced at 127,732 Pags. Have put aboard 310 bales of brown cloth, according to orders from Madras, as there is not enough already bleached to make up her cargo. Though the season has been unfavourable for washing, have sent to Madras 317 bales of last year's investment and 728 bales of this year's, and put aboard this ship 1,253 bales of bleached, besides the 310 of brown cloth. The total year's investment is about 2,800 bales. This ship will sail with the *Lincoln* and *Edgebaston*, convoyed by His Majesty's ships *Deptford* and *Dolphin*. Barnett is off Pondichery with the *Harwich*, *Medway*, *Preston*, and *Lively*; the *Winchester* and *Medway's Prize* are daily expected.

DESPATCH FROM NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. FEBRUARY 7, 1746. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 15, *pp.* 114-115 (*copy* 1½ *pp.*) *Damaged.*]

Cite despatch of [January 31.] The *Lincoln* and *Edgebaston* sailed on the 2nd to join the Squadron. His Majesty's ship, the *Medway's Prize* arrived with the prize ship *Restoration* (formerly the *Charles* owned by Dupleix). Schonamille's people carried her off from Mergui, but Captain Griffin secured both the ship and her crew of whom 24 were English. There is recent news that the Nizam has crossed the Kistna on his way to the Carnatic, and that the Marathas also are on this side of the river. [*Portions torn.*]

Appended are:—(1) list of the packet; and (2) manifest of private trade on the *Admiral Vernon*.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JANUARY 10, 1746. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 49, *pp.* 3-5 (*original* 3 *pp.*)]

Acknowledge the receipt of despatches of September 5, 1744, and January 8 and February 15, 1745. Of the 14 ships taken up, 1 is destined for Madras and China, and 5 for Madras and Bengal. The War against France and Spain is vigorously carried on. The Secret Committee consists of Dodding Braddyll, Harry Gough, Samuel Feake and Alexander Hume. Bills drawn by the

Mocha supercargoes on Madras must be met; and any coffee sent from there forwarded on the returning ships. Approve the considerable investment made; as large an investment as possible to be continued, raising what money is needed by loans, as the supplies to be sent are likely to be late in arrival owing to the distress of public credit and the late arrival of the India ships. To encourage money to be paid into cash for bills on the Company, 4*d.* a pagoda extra is to be allowed for this season. In case the capture of prizes by the Squadron should furnish Madras with gold or silver, what can be spared should be sent to Bengal. In view of the substantial reasons urged in the last despatches from Madras, continue the permission to sell woollen goods at outcry or deliver them to the merchants, as may be most expedient. Have transferred the Rev. Francis Fordyce from Sumatra to Madras.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. MARCH 27, 1746. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 49, *pp.* 13-15 (*original* 3 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of January 10. Have taken up an additional ship for Madras and Bengal. Have lent no money to the Commanders at respondentia this year. Have ordered 300 pipes of Madeira to be sent by the *Montfort*, half for Madras and half for Bengal. Officers are allowed 20 pipes as their privilege. Enclose list of cloth, etc., to be provided. Moses Salomons and Samuel Moses allowed to reside at Madras as diamond merchants. Madras and Bengal ships are ordered to put into Madras provided they can make it before the end of August. Navy stores sent out for the Squadron. Have licensed large quantity of coral, foreign silver, emeralds, bugles, etc., to be returned in diamonds on the usual terms. Have received despatch from Madras, dated July 3, 1745. Have entertained as writers at Madras:—Richard Turner, Henry Vansittart, John Duncombe, William Read, John Starke, Richard Fairfield, and Charles Turner. The Company's servants are to be kept close to business. Yesterday took up the *Bombay Castle* for Madras.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. APRIL 4, 1746. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 49, *p.* 95 (*original* 1 *p.*) *There is a copy at p.* 33.]

Cite despatch of March 27. This goes by the *Houghton*. All spare treasure to be forwarded to Bengal. Have appointed Samuel Parkes a factor and Sub-Accountant in Bengal; he is to

proceed thither by the first opportunity. As James Lauder, in the Portuguese service at Macao, has been giving early intelligence of the motions of Spanish ships in the China Seas, he is not to be molested on account of being in a foreign service, should he come to any of the Company's settlements.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. MAY 7, 1746. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 49, *pp.* 23-31 (*original* 9 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of April 4, 1746. This goes by the *Britannia*. Ships' Captains disobeying the Company's instructions to be called before Council and reminded of their duties. Approve Captain Steward of the *Winchester's* being obliged to give a bond for the chest of silver and the *aqua fortis* missing on board his ship. Lesser deficiencies must be made good by the Captains according to charterparty. Besides the Company's duties, owners are entitled to freight on all garnets and other bulky articles sent home on private account; the Captains should be given express orders to receive them aboard. Captains are reported to have touched at Durgarayapatnam, Krishnapatnam, and other places, for purposes of private trade when *en route* from Madras to Calcutta ; this is to be forbidden.

Regarding the alleged deficiencies in the chests of silver sent out, have tested some which were ready packed and which proved quite correct ; believe the complaints must be due to defective weights or roguery of the natives employed in the warehouse. Desire to know every year the probable sales of copper and the estimation in which the different kinds are held. Will send all the guns and muskets procurable this wartime. No silver is to be sold to the Nawab or others except for ready money. Deficiency of 14 lb. in a chest of silver sent from Madras to China.

Approve of bringing in new merchants, as the old ones are reduced in circumstances, in order to maintain the investment at its high standard. The French will not be able to compete much now ; in case Dutch rivalry proves troublesome, the brokerage may be increased or prices raised if absolutely necessary. The servants at the Northern factories must do their best to keep the country officials in a good humour, so as to avoid stoppages of trade. The balances due from the managers of Chintadripet and the Fort St. David merchants must be recovered. Buyers in England do not make as much difference between the different qualities of cloth as is shown in the invoices ; inferior sorts may be rejected where there are no competitors ; but where there are, the English must take the same sorts as they do or go without most of the cloth.

Are pleased to observe that owing to Morse's attention and Haji Hadi's assistance the new Nawab has not recalled the grants made the English by his predecessors. Trust the expenses of the late Nawab's family's residence in Madras will be reduced as soon as decently may be. Morse's letter to Nizam-ul-mulk was proper though unsuccessful; trust that in future no considerable sum will be disbursed till the promised grants have been actually made. Are gratified that Muhammad Saiyid Khan's grant for coining Arcot Rupees is still unrevoked. Regret that so much silver has had to be sent to Bengal uncoined, and that 50 chests of Arcot Rupees have had to be sold at Madras; the latter partly because it may annoy the Nawab and partly because the silver would have produced more if coined into Madras Rupees.

Cheerfully acquiesce in repairs, provided they are substantially executed. Approve the consideration whether the west front of Fort St. George may not be as well fortified by less expensive measures than those Knipe suggested. If topasses are really useless, no more should be kept than are needed to ease the duty of the European soldiers. If decrease in the customs has occurred in spite of just administration of the Customs-house and due encouragement of all traders, it must be submitted to.

Confirm that 'able gunner' Joseph Smith in his station at Madras. Edward Fowke to give security as Member of Council. In preparing the annual statement of quick stock, all credits must be included and all Europe goods, etc., valued at the current price less 10 %. When Belsches succeeds to a surgeonship at Madras, John Sheafe is to be Surgeon at Fort St. David, if agreeable to the Deputy Governor and Council, and Mr. Scott must be provided for otherwise.

Send list of deficiencies in the cargoes from Madras. To avoid overburdening Madras with tonnage, 3 ships go out with iron kintledge so that they may be sent to China, if necessary, with £15,000 worth of silver on each and, if no private ship is sent, about £5,000 worth of goods. On Benyon's advice, have remitted the fine imposed on Sunku Rama of 4,289½ Pags. at his son Venkatarama Chetti's petition. The money is therefore to be refunded. A discharge should be taken from him and others for all demands on account of the broadcloth which they alleged should have been delivered to them.

The Attorney and Solicitor-General consider that actions in the Mayor's Court on old bonds, etc., must be determined according to the English Statute of Limitations. [*A duplicate original, dated June 6, occurs at pp. 123—132, with four additional paragraphs containing shipping news.*]

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1746–1747.

DESPATCH FROM JOHN HINDE, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. OCTOBER 17, 1746. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 16, *pp.* 1–7 (*Copy* 6½ *pp.*) *Damaged.*]

Announce the capture of Madras by the French. 'The gentlemen there' lay the blame on the absence of the Squadron; will therefore give an account of the Squadron's movements and leave the Company to form its own opinion:—Barnett died at Fort St. David on April 29. 'The *Winchester* arrived May 25; and Peyton, who had succeeded to the command as senior Captain, resolved to sail with the whole Squadron to Trincomalee Bay in order to refit the *Medway* which was very leaky. On May 30, the Company's ship *Princess Mary* arrived on which were to be sent to Madras all the bales ready and such part of 60 chests of treasure (brought from Bombay by the *Winchester*) as was not needed at Fort St. David. On June 9, she was despatched with only 222 bales (as the weather had been too rough to lade more) and 46 chests of treasure, under escort of the *Lively;* and the rest of the Squadron sailed for Trincomalee. On June 17, Peyton wrote that the *Preston* carried away her bowsprit just as they were reaching the Bay and that in consequence he had borne up for Negapatam to refit her. On June 25, in Negapatam roads, at day-break, strange ships were sighted from the mast-head. They proved to be 9 French ships; but the winds were so light that the Squadrons could not get up with each other till half past 4, when an engagement began which lasted till 7. They were near each other all next day, and at 4 p.m. Peyton called a Council of War, when it was agreed to sail for Trincomalee. The French sailed for Pondichery where they arrived June 27. The English losses were 14 killed and 46 wounded (but none touched on the *Medway*). Do not know the French losses. The French Squadron consisted of the *Achilles* (a 70 gun-ship), 6 Company's and 2 country ships. Peyton remained at Trincomalee till the beginning of August and was off Negapatam August 6. One of the French ships sailed for Bengal but was lost in the Hugli with 280 Europeans. The rest sailed south from Pondichery July 24, and were

in the Negapatam roads when Peyton appeared. They sailed out to meet him; but he avoided them on the 7th, 8th and 9th August, and disappeared on the 10th. On the 13th, the French returned to Pondichery, and on the 17th sailed for Madras, where they bombarded the Fort and the *Princess Mary*. It is said they had two motives:—(1) to get a pretext for telling the Country powers that the English began hostilities ashore; and (2) to see whether Peyton would come to the rescue of Madras. On August 23 Peyton put into Pulicat road, learnt of the French Squadron's movements, and disappeared no one knows whither. The last letter from the Squadron was one from Peyton to Morse, dated August 4, when he had just finished refitting. His 'unhappy conduct so animated our enemies that they determined on attacking Fort St. George.' They landed at St. Thomé or thereabouts, and began the attack on September 5, chiefly depending on their shells. The place surrendered September 10, but it is not known precisely on what terms; anyhow, no terms have yet been complied with, and d'Espréménil has set out from Pondichery to command the place. On October 2 and 3, when the French ships were laden with money, goods, etc., a storm arose, in which 3 ships foundered, 1,200 men were lost, and the Squadron so shattered that the intended attack on Fort St. David has become for the present impossible; the officers consider that if it had been made, 'we should have taken up more of their time than they had to spare.' 20 men from the Squadron left sick at Fort St. David 'have put our gun-room in excellent order'; a few soldiers have escaped hither from Madras; and the Fort is stored for 6 months. The French now talk of attacking by land, but with common prudence the Fort can be held against them till we are relieved. The Company's sloops *Advice* and *Mermaid* were both taken at Madras and lost in the storm; the *Princess Mary* was scuttled and run into the surf, but the French have got her off; the *Sumatra* and *Brilliant* from Sumatra passed Fort St. David, August 19, and ran straight into the French Squadron which was flying English colours. The French say they had the Nawab's permission to attack Madras, which they got for a present of a lakh of Pagodas; and when they landed, they produced the Nawab's parwana. Everything has been done to convince the Nawab of the injustice and impolicy of such conduct; and he denies that he ever did so, says that his son was advancing to relieve Madras just when it surrendered, and offers to join in attacking Pondichery. However he is also corresponding with the French and no doubt expects his share of

the booty, though in this he is likely to be disappointed. Will keep on good terms with him, but doubt receiving much assistance from him. Have written to Bengal and Bombay for help. 3 French Europe ships reached Mahé, August 25; and Pondichery September 27. They sailed thence October 14. 4 others that came out with them are said to have sailed for China. No news of any English shipping from Europe. Have not heard from Bengal this season. Hinde has received only 3 letters from Morse, and those written in such general terms (for fear of interception) that nothing is known of the situation there. De Jong (Chief of Pulicat) is said by Morse to have sent back all the women and children of Madras and refused them shelter; but Mersen (Governor of Negapatam) has very kindly received all the families from Fort St. David. On hearing of the fall of Madras, stopped the investment, having only about 10,000 Pags. in hand. Have 1,500 bales and will be able to make them up to 1,800 in January, if a ship puts in to receive them.

Supplement: The last letter from Morse mentions Articles of Capitulation for ransom, but the terms are not stated. Whatever they are, Dupliex is keeping them ill. He sent out 300 men to seize refugees from Madras and keeps them as prisoners of war. The 3 French ships have returned and with 7 others are in the roads in the offing.

Appended are:—(1) letter to St. Helena reporting the loss of Madras; and (2) sailing orders for the *Porto Bello* sloop.

DESPATCH FROM JOHN HINDE, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. JANUARY 10, 1747. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 16, *pp.* 7-12 (*Copy* 5½ *pp.*) *Damaged.*]

Since October matters have continued uncertain. Neither letter nor help received from Bengal. Have induced the Nawab to declare in our favour; and at the beginning of December Muhammad Ali was sent here with about 2,000 horse. On December 8, the French advanced against Fort St. David with their whole force. 'We made the best defence we could'; and though they got as far as the Garden House, they were driven out on the 9th and compelled 'to a very precipitate retreat' in which they are thought to have lost 170 men. They abandoned 2 mortars and all their ammunition, etc. On December 20, they prepared to surprise us by sea, but Providence disappointed them,

some boats being driven ashore and their ammunition spoilt. On December 31, 'we had a skirmish by land in which we again obtained an advantage over them, and had we even then been succoured Your Honour's affairs would have been in all human probability restored in a great measure if not altogether.' Mahfuz Khan has now joined his brother and the camp expenses amount to near 6,000 Rs. a day; unless shipping arrives soon, fear they will quit us. There are 4 French ships at Pondichery, and 5 others. The situation is precarious, so this is sent in haste to Tranquebar lest a siege should prevent the possibility of writing. Think it unkind that the other settlements have sent no help. Have only expended 3,000 [Pags. ?] in presents to the Nawab; but the French are making great efforts to come to terms with him. A message has just been received from the Nawab's sons that he has released 4 French prisoners and is actually treating with the French. Will do everything possible to secure performance of the Nawab's promises, including the restoration of Madras, but his councils are influenced by little but immediate gain.

On October 23 Griffin with His Majesty's ships *Princess Mary* and *Pearl* reached Achin and sailed to join the Squadron at Balasore November 2. On November 5, the *Britannia* put into Madras, but escaped capture and is said to be at Galle, whither orders have been sent for her to come to Fort St. David. The *Houghton*, having failed to make Madras, put in here on December 5; but, on hearing that Madras had been taken, her Captain sailed that night, without landing the packet or taking any notice of the signals that were made. This extremely disheartened the garrison. Other shipping news. At Pondichery the *St. Louis* is lading for Europe and the *Princess Mary* [an English merchant ship captured by the French in 1746] for the Islands. Morse, Monson, Stratton and Savage are there; Eyre at Tranquebar; Harris here; and Fowke at Pulicat. Several of the junior servants are here and have been given a subsistence allowance. John Pybus has been employed in the Secretary's office. The French have in the last month removed everything useful from Madras and stocked themselves with grain from that place. Having been desired by the Madras Councillors to send the necessary orders to the Northern factories, desired Vizagapatam and Ingeram to send their bales hither under proper convoy. They have about 800 each and there are 1,700 at Fort St. David. Have done everything possible for the defence of the place but are in the utmost want of almost everything.

Postscript : News from Vizagapatam that the *Kent* has arrived to lade the bales there and at Ingeram, that the *Medway* lost her mainmast in heaving down in the Hugli, and that 6 ships would be ready to sail in December. Since that, news has come of Griffin's reaching Balasore on December 7 ; so the Squadron is daily expected. It is plain that the Fort William Council 'have not had the least thought for us.' Hope it will be possible to humour the Nawab a little longer, or that in some other way Fort St. David may be preserved till help arrives, in which case the next despatch may announce the recovery of Madras on reasonable terms, though it may cost considerable presents to the Nawab.

Appended is a letter to James Hugonin at Tranquebar, directing him to take charge of the Company's packets on a Danish ship by which he is going to Europe.

DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. MAY 2, 1747. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 16, *pp.* 13–40 (*Copy* 27½ *pp.*) *Damaged.*]

This despatch sent by the *Britannia* which reached Fort St. David, February 22. Regret despatching her so late, but a cargo will doubtless prove very serviceable to the Company. She brings 1,784 bales invoiced at 144,474 Pags. Wish Fort William had sent a convoy earlier as desired. Were brought to the utmost extremity on being abandoned by the Moors, who went away owing to the long delay of our shipping, and the French offers which rose to 5 lakhs of rupees. 'Both their armies [i.e., Mahfuz Khan's and Muhammad Ali's] decamped' February 14. On February 28, the French marched out of Pondichery and next day made another attempt upon the place, with much larger forces than before to which the English could oppose only a quarter as many. We sent out all the peons, with 100 Europeans, 200 topasses and some Artillery, in order to delay their progress. We kept them from crossing the Pennar all that day, but at night were forced to withdraw to the Fort. Early in the morning of the 2nd March they marched to the Garden House; but soon after Griffin hove in sight with 9 vessels, on which the French retired so hurriedly that, though Griffin immediately landed 800 men, pursuit was useless. Several houses about the Bounds were burnt, but the damage might have been much greater.

Acknowledge the receipt of despatches dated January 10, March 27, April 4 and May 7, 1746 with duplicates of others. Of the Company's ships only the *Houghton* and *Britannia* have touched here. On February 16 the *Princess Amelia* put into Madras and was taken; the money, etc., aboard her enabled the French to tempt the Moors over to their side. Other shipping news. The *Brilliant* has been recaptured by the Squadron on her way from the Islands and has been bought for the Company for 7,150 Rs. There were 8 French ships there when she sailed—of which the *Achilles* and another were destined for Europe with La Bourdonnais. Floyer will answer the letter from the Secret Committee addressed to Morse. Have advertised the Company's offer to allow 4*d.* more per pagoda in bills for cash paid into the treasury; but expect no considerable sum. Will hardly be able to examine into the suspected fraud of the Indians employed in weighing off the Company's silver sent by the *York*, as that was done at Fort St. George. As soon as more silver is received than is absolutely needed at Fort St. David, the surplus shall be sent to Bengal.

When the *Admiral Vernon* sailed in February 1746, there remained over 416 bales. Since then 1,600 have been provided. Had there been peace and a sufficient supply of pagodas, almost any quantity could have been got; but the merchants' balances had to be called in in order to pay the garrison. The *Kent* was sent from Bengal to fetch the Vizagapatam and Ingeram bales; she did not reach Vizagapatam in time, but 112 bales were sent later to Bengal by a country sloop convoyed by His Majesty's ship *Lively*. 688 bales have reached here from Ingeram and 82 from Ganjam. Will get as much cloth as possible, and hope to send a ship home in September. Have not yet been able to procure pagodas (or gold to make them with) for a new investment. Have opened a gold and silver mint at Cuddalore under Foxall, the Assay Master at Madras, who has come in with all the people and materials he could save from that mint. The Dutch were already making proposals to the Nawab to supplant us, but we were just in time to prevent them. The Dutch and Danes have been the only competitors in buying cloth, the French having bought none; the only cloth the last have sent home has been that taken at Madras. The Danes are troublesome rather by lowering the quality by taking bad cloth than by purchasing largely; but the Dutch are 'every year falling into our sortments.' Have allowed the merchants a further 6 months in which to pay

off their old balances. Only one Macao ship has arrived this year and brought little or no tea; will buy when opportunity offers and encourage the sending of tea hither.

The province this year has been free from Maratha invasions. Nothing but money will fix the Nawab in our interest; and the French offers are so large that nothing less than lakhs will satisfy him. Such sums are too considerable for the Council to dispose of, and nothing more has been done than to promise in general terms the Company's gratitude, should any assistance be given; which with small presents as an earnest may have the desired effect. When the Nawab's two armies were camped here for nearly 3 months at a cost of 6,000 Rs. a day, the presents given did not exceed 40,000 Rs.—a small sum compared with the advantage of the French defeat in December. Hinde offered them 2,000 Rs. a day if they would only stay 10 days longer, when the fleet was expected; but this was refused.

In consequence of Smith's report on the defences in 1745 and the advice of a man recommended as skilled in fortification [George Jones], the South West Bastion has been rebuilt, the ditch completed, the parapet thickened to 6 feet, and a bomb-proof 'casern' built inside the Fort. Now by the advice of Griffin and others, are widening the ditch to 100 feet broad and building a horn-work and covered way to the northward, with other works on the east and west, in case of attack when the Squadron has to leave the Coast in the monsoon. The estimated expense of the new works is 85,730 Pags. Have been pretty successful in inducing work-people from Madras to come hither. Have pulled down all buildings (including the hospital) within 400 yards of the Fort. Have bought a house for the use of Griffin and the Naval officers, as the Garden House was too remote. Need an Engineer, as Smith died at Madras on the second day of the siege.

The customs have decreased as the French Squadron prevented the arrival of shipping. The grain customs were for a while taken off owing to a scarcity of grain. The farms are all let at the usual rents.

Governor Hinde died April 14. Edward Croke, the Second, declined the chair owing to his age and ill-health. Accordingly Charles Floyer, the next in seniority at Fort St. David, became Governor. Alexander Wynch has been appointed Paymaster, and Thomas Cooke junior Storehouse-keeper. Morse and Eyre are at Tranquebar; Monson has sailed for Europe on a Danish

ship; Fowke is in Bengal; and Stratton is reported to have sailed thence for Europe. Have kept a general table for the junior Madras servants, as they have drawn no pay since the loss of Madras. Have entertained Sidney Foxall to manage the mint at his former pay, etc. Of the writers sent out, only Turner, Vansittart and Duncumbe have arrived. Have entertained William Smyth King, John Pybus, and Edmund Maskelyne as monthly writers at 10 Pags. a month till they can be confirmed by the Company in their former standing. Pybus has since desired leave to go to Europe. More writers needed. Samuel Parkes has gone to Bengal according to the Company's appointment. John Hallyburton was exchanged and arrived here in October. He has been particularly useful especially in the first French attack, when he was sent to the Nawab's camp 'to signify our instructions to him.' Recommend him for reward. Most of the Madras garrison that could escape have come in; and so have all the officers, who have been continued in their former ranks. As the Lieutenants have behaved well in our two actions with the enemy, recommend that they be given Captains' commissions. The other officers and the soldiers have been rewarded with clothing. Robert Clive 'being of a martial disposition' and having acted as a volunteer in the late engagements, has been made Ensign. The garrison, always too small for the defence of the place, is now more inadequate than ever, for the French can send out 1,000 Europeans at any time. Need also 'an experienced head-officer.' Have received 35 recruits. For lack of Europeons, have had to entertain about 3,000 peons; discharged a few on the arrival of the Squadron. Have written to Bombay for 200 or 300 Europeans and 600 Arabs. Entertained Francis Fordyce as Chaplain on his arrival from Sumatra.

All the books and papers relating to Madras being in the hands of the French, cannot tell what may have been owing to the Company there; but will question the conicoplies who are now beginning to come hither.

The French have behaved with great inhumanity. They have refused to exchange a single prisoner with the Commodore, and suddenly drove away all the women and children they had allowed to reside at the Mount, plundering them and burning their houses. They are busy fortifying the White Town at Madras and have almost destroyed the Black. Deserters report there are 1,300 Europeans in garrison at Pondichery and 400 at Madras, besides many peons and coffrees. Cannot at present make any attack

upon them, but as soon as we can be reinforced, Griffin will do his best to avenge our past injuries.

Griffin arrived March 2 with His Majesty's ships *Princess Mary, Medway, Harwich, Winchester, Pearl, Preston, Medway's Prize* and *Lively*, and a brigantine fitted as a fire-ship. He is still here. One ship is off Madras to prevent the *Neptune* and the *Princess Amelia* from escaping; others are stationed off Pondichery and to the southward. Griffin is every way worthy of his command, and only needs reinforcement to restore the Company's affairs.

Supplement: The *Pearl* has saved the *Exeter* from going into Madras. As all the coral books are lost, cannot exactly specify all details of the coral returns. Have received from Griffin bills for 1,500 dollars on the Navy Victuallers for money paid out of the Company's cash. Have drawn bills on the Company for 100 Pags. Diamonds registered 68,243 Pags. At Hinde's death, the Company's cash owed him 1,839 Pags., as no gold can be got to coin pagodas.

Appended are:—(1) register of diamonds; and (2) list of the packet.

DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. MAY 15, 1747. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 16, *pp.* 40–44 (*Copy* 4½ *pp.*)]

This despatch sent by the *Lapwing* which sails *viâ* Sumatra with 200 bales and is to be filled up with pepper there. Send copy of report by a Committee of officers of what they consider needful for the defence of the place. William Belsches (Agent for the sick and wounded of the Squadron) has delivered in accounts, attested by the Commodore for the time being, and amounting to 2,984 Pags. which have been paid him. Have dismissed Ensign von Francken for furnishing LaBourdonnais with a plan of Madras and other misdemeanours, and send him to Europe on the *Lapwing*. Diamonds registered 3,275 Pags.

Appended are:—(1) register of diamonds; and (2) list of the packet.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JULY 9, 1746. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 49, *pp.* 135–136 (*Original* 2 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of June 12 [*Wanting*]. Shipping news. This sent by the *Bombay Castle*. Purchase of coffee at Mocha. Rev. Richard Rider entertained as joint-chaplain at Madras with Fordyce.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. AUGUST 15, 1746. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 49, *pp.* 157–160 (*Copy* 3½ *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of July 9. Acknowledge the receipt of despatch dated October 17, 1745. This goes by the *Norfolk*, bound for Madras, Sumatra, etc. 10 chests of treasure are to be put aboard her and she is to be despatched as quickly as possible.* Order contracts to be made with Portuguese at Macao for the purchase of the Bohea teas which are always to be had cheap after the Europe shipping has left Canton, and which are usually carried by junks to Batavia. Several large ships come yearly from Macao; so it should be easy to arrange this. Since the English tea duties were lowered, the consumption of the cheaper sorts of teas has risen to above 1,000,000 lbs. a year. Send samples of what may be had at Batavia at 19–25 Rix Dollars (=11–15 taels) the pecul. They fetch 6–10 tael per pecul at Macao after the Europe ships have gone. May give 10—14 Pags. the pecul delivered at Madras. Ordinary green teas may be bought at 12–14 Pags. per pecul at Madras. The lowest and cheapest sort is mostly wanted, provided it is sweet, the flavour mattering little.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. NOVEMBER 14, 1746. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 49, *pp.* 151–156 (*Original* 6 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of August 15 by the *Norfolk*. Arrival of ships. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches dated December [23], 1745, and January 31, 1746. This goes by the *Lapwing*. She brings 25 tons of lead, 50 chests of treasure, and a recruit of soldiers. She is to be despatched at once to Sumatra with the bales on hand (and saltpetre for kintledge) to be filled up there with pepper. Of 15 ships taken up, 6 are designed for Madras and Bengal. The rate of exchange for bills on the Company to continue as last year. 5,600 bales of Coast goods received are very welcome; there is a large demand for calicoes. Approve the projected works on the west front of Fort St. George provided the backwater can be carried off so as to avoid damage to the walls; but do not consider new works towards the sea necessary. Having consulted with Benyon, doubt the advantage of making the proposed moat, owing to the looseness of the soil and the nature of the country; if diverted from

*She sailed without the treasure which was sent on the *Lapwing*. Vide *Secretary Mole to Morse, etc.*, November 7, 1746 (*India Office transcript. Miscellanies, Vol.* 10, *p.* 176.)

its present course, the river [Cooum] will soon make a new bed for itself, whereas if turned into the moat, there would be danger of its undermining the walls during the freshes ; till now, though the walls were washed yearly by the floods, they were little hurt because of the breadth of the river-bed ; if confined within narrow limits, the floods would be much more destructive, especially as the walls are to be built on the very edge of the moat. The proposed small canals north and south of the Town are far too small to carry off the flood-water ; moreover in the south-west monsoon they would be choked with sand. Either the river should be allowed to skirt the walls with no artificial bank on the other side, or it should be diverted to a considerable distance from the moat. As regards the sea-front Benyon says that the foundations of the present walls are often exposed in spring-tides or in hard northerly gales ; building new walls nearer the sea must evidently then be dangerous ; besides, he asserts that having sounded the roads, he ascertained that though ships could come near enough to throw shot into the Fort, they could not batter in breach, both on account of the distance and the swell ; and even if they could breach the sea-wall, they could hardly land troops in the face of the least resistance, owing to the surf. Send samples of tea to be purchased and to be avoided. Have lent the Captain of the *Lapwing* £1,000 on respondentia.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JANUARY 16, 1747. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 50, *pp.* 3–4 (*Original* 2 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of November 14, 1746. Acknowledge the receipt of despatch, dated February 7, 1746. This goes by the *Prince of Wales* and *Stafford*, which are to be sent on to China with 30 chests of treasure each. In case the Canton supercargoes have too much tonnage, they will lade the surplus ships with tutenague, sugar, etc., for the Madras market. Money may be received for bills on the Company on account of Thomas Braddyll or William Davis. Since writing the above, it has been decided to send the ships direct to China.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. FEBRUARY 18, 1747. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 50, *pp.* 5–6 (*Original* 2 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of January 16. Have taken up 3 ships for Madras and Bengal. This goes by the *Oxford.* She brings 80 tons

of iron, 30 chests of treasure and 100 pipes of Madeira consigned to Madras. The *Winchelsea, Colchester* and *Benjamin* carry large supplies of naval stores for the Squadron. Stringer Lawrence entertained as Major on the same terms as Major Knipe, i.e., £ 250 with one of the companies. James Cope, William Keene, Lawrence Donaldson, Edmund Pascall, and John Brooke appointed Ensigns. In future there are to be 2 Ensigns to each company at Madras and Fort St. David. These officers' pay will commence from their arrival. The Major is allowed diet money as one of Council (10 Pags. a month); and Lieutenants as Factors (8 Pags.). In future the Major and Lieutenants are to have the clothing of their companies instead of the Paymaster. Lieutenant John Hollond is transferred to Bengal. All spare money must be forwarded to Bengal.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO NICHOLAS MORSE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. APRIL 15, 1747. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 49, *pp.* 183 *(Original* 1 *p.)*]

Announce the appointment of Harry Gough, Richard Chauncy, Alexander Hume and William Mabbot as the Secret Committee for the coming year.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1747-1748.

DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. AUGUST 19, 1747. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 16, *pp.* 45–50 *(Copy* 6 *pp.)*]

On May 28, the *Severn*, *Warwick*, and *Ilchester* arrived from Bombay together with the *Princess Augusta* lately ransomed. Are now despatching the *Severn* for Europe. Received by these vessels from Bombay 370 soldiers and some large cannon; but the men included only 70 Europeans. A month ago 225 'sepoys' arrived from Tellicherry overland. Even now have but 300 able-bodied Europeans in garrison; and the French are resolved to attack as soon as Griffin leaves the Coast, for if Fort St. David is still in English hands next January, Pondichery will then probably be taken and Madras recovered. Send a plan of the Fort and the new works. At a Council of War held on July 19 it was resolved to build a battery at the Burying ground and 'fortify the points' in Devanampattanam. It was also decided 'to clear' all Devanampattanam, the remainder of the Colloway, and the houses about the Washing-town, as well as to level the banks of the tank there. On Griffin's recommendation have appointed George Gibson (Captain of Marines aboard the flagship), Captain-Commandant of the garrison. Have appointed several of the Madras writers Ensigns, and nominated George Jones to regulate the Train, the officers in which will receive commissions. The season approaching when the Squadron must leave the Coast, have represented the weakness of our position to Griffin.

Have been able to do but little towards an investment for lack of money; and in any case have no proper places for bleaching cloth. With the remains from last year, have 800 bales, white and brown, which will be forwarded to Bengal if the Coast is reported clear. The investment at the Northern factories has suffered by a ship with a large amount of money for them having overshot her port and proceeded (it is thought) to Bengal. Have been unable to send money to Bengal (in spite of their importunacy), owing to the heavy charges of our garrison and works.

The *Swift* Snow arrived from England on June 18, and the *Bombay Castle* on August 1. The Captain of the *Houghton* alleges

as excuse for deserting Fort St. David in 1746 that he suspected the French had taken the place and that Hinde's letters were counterfeit. Placed the *Warwick* and *Ilchester* under Griffin's orders, as there was no other employment for them, and as the French are known to have a large sea-force; the *Warwick* has since been returned to the Company's service.

Bills drawn on the Company for 600 Pags.; diamonds registered 12,980 Pags.

Appended are:—(1) register of diamonds; and (2) list of the packets.

DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. SEPTEMBER 26 AND 27, 1747. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 16, *pp.* 51–53 (*Copy* 3 *pp.*)]

Have despatched 485 bales by the *Princess Augusta* to Sumatra and 411 by the *Warwick* to Bengal. The latter sailed under command of Ward, the Chief Mate, as Captain Misenor was very ill and died on September 13. The *Ilchester* and the *Bombay Castle* are serving with the Squadron; the former will shortly be discharged. Shipping news. Fort William report they are sending men and stores by the *Princess of Wales*, but she has not yet arrived though 2 ships have arrived thence with rice. La Bourdonnais is reported to have sailed for Europe with 5 ships. The Company's late ship *Princess Mary* has been lost at Gogo, but most of her crew were saved. No outward-bound ships have put in here. When Nasir Jang came southward, a vakil was sent to procure the assistance of some troops. Hope to succeed in this, as, though expensive, it is the only way to secure the Fort.

Postcript: News from Vizagapatam that the *Oxford* put in there August 29, having been warned by a catamaran off St. Thomé of the capture of Madras. The packet, recruits and 50 pipes of Madeira have been landed at Vizagapatam to be forwarded hither by the *Princess of Wales*. The *Fanny* (which brought the above news) in passing Madras saw the whole of the Squadron there and the *Neptune* in a blaze.

Appended is a letter to the English Consul at Copenhagen desiring him to forward the packet to England.

DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. FEBRUARY 13, 1748. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 16, *pp.* 54–91 (*Copy* 37½ *pp.*) *Damaged.*]

This goes by the *Warwick* from Bengal, ordered to call in here for despatches. The *Anson* was captured on September 2, by two

French privateers the *Apollo* and *Anglesea*, just as she was going into Bombay; she defended herself for two hours and a half; and her treasure and packets were saved by a boat that put aboard her and carried them into Bombay. Other shipping news. The *Warwick* and *Ilchester*, having been discharged from the Squadron, have been sent, the former with our remaining bales to Bengal and the latter to Anjengo. Expect the *Princess Augusta* with a cargo of timber from Batavia. The *Brilliant* is on a secret cruize under Griffin's orders. Received on December 30 the Company's letter of April 15, 1747, by the *George* snow. Unfortunately the weather did not allow Griffin to burn the *Princess Amelia* as well as the *Neptune*. She was run ashore, but got off again, came to Pondichery, laded 1,200 bales of white and blue cloth, and slipped off it is believed for the Islands. Griffin remained at sea through the monsoon, and came into the roads on November 11, with His Majesty's ships *Princess Mary*, *Medway* and *Pearl*. So many sick had to be landed out of the two last that Griffin had to apply for a detachment of men from the garrison. The *Bombay Castle* was again placed under him. The *Oxford* arrived here from the Bay January 15, will be sent with stores to Sumatra and bring back arrack, lower-masts, and anchors from Batavia for the Squadron. Have received the Company's despatches of January 16 and February 18, 1747 by the *Winchelsea*, *Colchester* and *Benjamin*, which arrived here from Balasore under escort of His Majesty's ships *Exeter*, *York* and *Eltham*. The Company's despatch of June 6, 1746, was received by the *Princess of Wales*. The *Exeter* has also arrived and with the *Winchelsea* and *Benjamin* has been ordered under Griffin. The *Colchester* has been returned to Bengal with orders to land treasure and stores at Vizagapatam. Hope for speedy arrival of the reinforcements news of which has come *via* Basra and Bombay.

Of the copper, pitch and tar sent out by the *Norfolk* and received by the *Bombay Castle*, 61 candies of copper have been sold here and the rest sent to Bengal; the pitch and tar will be needed for the use of the Squadron. [2 *pp. apparently missing here.*] 400 tons of redwood are ready at Durgarayapatnam to be sent to Bengal, but hitherto a conveyance has been wanting. Of the 100 pipes of Madeira consigned to the Coast, 8 have been detained at Vizagapatam and 72 received here; it has been selling at 50 Pags. a pipe. Broadcloth forwarded from here to Bengal proved damaged; believe it must have been damaged in England.

Were unable to bleach the bales sent to Bengal owing to the alarms of the French; have 22 bales on hand. On May 11, 1747,

considered the investment and summoned the merchants. As cotton was cheap and the demand from our enemies small, secured a reduction of price, and finally agreed with Andiyappa's set of merchants to provide as much cloth as we could advance them for; but afterwards, as no ships arrived, were obliged to desist from making further advances, though there was prospect of a singularly good investment. Probably shall be able to do nothing more 'till the heat of war is abated'; shall therefore demand the return of their balances from Andiyappa's set. The balances from the 'old set' have already been demanded; but as the larger part is due from Mutyalu who is now negotiating with Nasir Jang, they have not yet been recovered. The Northern factories have been able to provide nothing owing to lack of the money sent by the *Jenny* which failed to make them; since then have been able to send only Rs. 20,000 for their current expenses, but have requested Fort William to send them supplies. Do not know how many bales they have sent to Bengal. 10 bales of the Ingeram 1746 investment, damaged by the leakiness of the ship, were accepted on the Company's account as Council was sure Saunders had provided the best vessel he could. Have much torn and damaged cloth on hand; hoping the ship's Captains would be purchasers, it was resolved to sell this at outcry in August last; but the ships leaving suddenly, the sale has been deferred till now. Venkataraman has written for the repayment of his fine, according to the Company's orders; but as it is not known what he may owe the Company, nothing will be done until he comes here.

When Nasir Jang was about 15 days' journey distant, sent him a Vakil to procure a safe conduct (as the roads were infested by French peons) for the two ambassadors it was then intended to send, and to pave the way towards obtaining 10,000 horse to protect the Fort during the monsoon. Nasir Jang did not come to Arcot as was expected, but withdrew, delayed coming to an agreement and would not send 'a convoy' for the ambassadors. At last in November the Vakil made an agreement to pay 3 lakhs of rupees for the 10,000 horse; soon after however Nasir Jang demanded 10 lakhs instead, which was afterwards reduced to 5; but that was declined as he insisted on part being paid in advance and as we were bare of money. Nasir Jang was then summoned to join his father and dismissed the Vakil handsomely. The last letter from the Vakil announces that he has hired 300 good horse and will soon be back here. This expedition has been much cheaper than sending two ambassadors. Beawes and Captain Crompton (who were to have gone) have been

compensated for their expenses in preparation, etc. The chief reason for applying to the Nizam for help was the little reliance that can be placed on the Arcot Government. The Marathas are reported from Arcot to be within a few days' journey. Dupleix has applied to the Nawab to mediate between the French and English.

The ditch round the Fort is completed; the horn-work is as high as the turning of the arches for the caserns; and the lunette to the west is progressing under the direction of George Jones and his assistants. The rest of the houses in Devanampattanam and the Colloway have been pulled down as the clearance to the 800-yard limit left but a few. Owing to shortness of money have not paid for Croke's, Captain deMorgan's and other houses that have been destroyed. Besides the new battery at the Burying ground and the strengthening of the Devanampattanam points, have erected fascine batteries on the beach east of Devanampattanam and 'along the lines from the Burying ground'. Another fascine battery has been raised at the south-west corner of the Fort and armed with the heavy guns from Bombay, as that part of the Fort was not able to bear them. Are taking all possible care to execute the works with economy, but for want of skilled engineers are liable to raise works that may not be really necessary. Have bought a house at Porto Novo for the Resident there, as the Company's factory is quite ruined. Have had to make many sheds and guard-rooms for the garrison and peons, which, with the demolition of the houses, has been very expensive.

The Cuddalore Sea customs have increased 1,201 Pags. owing to the importation of raw silk, etc.; the Cuddalore Land customs are decreased 607 Pags. owing to the suspension of grain-duties in the late scarcity; the Devanampattanam Sea and Land customs have increased 1,954 Pags. owing to the importation of coral and raw silk.

The general table for the Madras junior servants has been taken off, as some have gone away and others been entertained. William Read arrived by the *Bombay Castle* and has been entertained as directed. William Rider, who was coming out as Chaplain at Madras, remained in Sumatra on hearing of the loss of that settlement. Being in great need of officers, have appointed as Ensigns Philip Bulkeley, Edmund Maskelyne, John Duncumbe, John Wright, Samuel Smith, John Harding and Joshua Cheeseborough. The first two were Madras servants who have accepted commissions till the Company's pleasure is known; the third

is a servant here who has been promised that he shall lose no standing by accepting one.

Morse and Percival have been exchanged for Leyrit, Chief of Mahé, and Le Riche, Chief of Karikal, who were caught and brought here as prisoners of war. Morse arrived here August 2 and has made himself very useful. Eyre and Harris are at Tranquebar and Savage here ; Edward Fowke sails for Europe by this ship. Have appointed Residents—Charles Nicholls at Negapatam, Henry Cope at Porto Novo, and Alexander Baird at Pulicat—to get early intelligence of any French ships on the Coast.

Major Stringer Lawrence arrived on the *Winchelsea* January 13, and was given his commission at the head of the garrison on the 18th. The Ensigns who accompanied him have arrived. Captain George Gibson has been thanked for his good services. Have received 98 recruits excluding 11 detained at Vizagapatam. Lieutenant John Hollond, being transferred to Bengal by the Company, has resigned his company, but is remaining as a supernumerary in the hope of taking part in the expected fighting. Are sending the rolls of the garrison and desire a further reinforcement. Found it necessary to introduce martial law into this garrison, and have commissioned Major Lawrence to sit as President and Ensign James Cope to act as Judge Advocate. Have formed the gun-room crew into an Artillery company under Lieutenant George Jones and several Ensigns. Have received 113 Europeans from Bengal. The officers of this and the Bombay detachment are allowed a table as is usual when 'on command.' Charles Bourchier has been appointed Secretary *vice* Thomas Cooke, junior. The Madras conicoplies have been unable to give any information about the accounts there.

Sumatra affairs.

On August 19, applied to Galenus Mersen, Governor of Negapatam, for leave to pull down the compound walls of the Dutch factory at Devanampattanam, 700 yards from the Fort ; but he declined. The 2½ % customs the Dutch pay on their exports and imports by no means compensates the inconvenience of having a foreign power settled so near an English fort. The French garrisons are 1,300 Europeans at Pondichery, 400 at Madras, and 100 at Karikal, besides topasses, coffrees and sepoys 'who are disciplined and are of great service to them.'

On a rumour of some accident befalling our Squadron at Trincomalee, the French prepared another attack. Timely notice was received, and dispositions were made for defence at a Council of

War held December 25. On January 6, Dupleix in person led out all the forces he could collect and camped 4 miles away. It was moon-light and an attack on our out-towns was expected that night. As they were preparing for it next morning, Griffin arrived with 4 ships, on which a signal was given from Pondichery and the French withdrew. Only 2 French ships supposed to be the privateers, are reported on the Malabar coast. A French ship, the *Cibèle*, reached Pondichery on January 4 and sailed again in 4 days. She brought news of the French fleet designed for India, the defeat of which by Anson is reported from Bombay. Immediately afterwards Dupleix applied to the Nawab for his mediation and is now preparing for defence.

Rosewell, late Agent Victualler of the Squadron, left suddenly for Bengal June 15, 1747 and has since sent accounts relating to victuals supplied at Madras in 1746. Desired Bengal to send him hither, as Peyton said nothing could be done without his presence. Rosewell has replied [? objecting]. Will discuss the matter with Peyton and Morse. Send vouchers for 4,261 Pags. supplied to our Surgeon for His Majesty's hospital from March 2, 1747, and bills on the Admiralty for 1,500 dollars supplied to the Squadron. Griffin is in the road with His Majesty's ships *Princess Mary*, *Preston*, *Pearl* and *Eltham*, and Company's ships *Bombay Castle*, *Winchelsea* and *Exeter*. Cannot overpraise Griffin's services in keeping the sea all through the monsoon. He sailed north September 28 and returned October 18; the wind being fresh, he did not anchor, but put to sea returning November 11, with the *Medway* and *Pearl*, having lost company with the rest of the Squadron; he sailed on November 16, returning on the 26th, when he left the *Medway* as a guard-ship and sailed to rejoin the Squadron. On December 4, the *Fogo*, fireship, arrived from Vizagapatam; but the sea being high, she parted her cables, and that night the *Medway* also was driven out of the road. The *Fogo* drove ashore on the 7th but all her crew were saved. On the *Medway's* reaching Trincomalee, Griffin at once sent the *Harwich* which arrived here January 2. Ever since Griffin has been in India, he has done his very best in the Company's defence.

Supplement: Have detained the *Warwick* 4 or 5 days in order to complete the packet, though her charterparty time expired January 31. Diamonds, etc., registered 117,244 Pags.

Appended are:—(1) sailing orders for the *Warwick*; (2) register of diamonds, etc.; (3) list of sundries permitted to be shipped as presents; and (4) list of the packet.

Despatch from Charles Floyer, etc., to the Company. Fort St. David. April 25, 1748. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 16, *pp.* 91–101 (*Copy* 10½ *pp.*) *Damaged.*]

The *Porto Bello*, *Prince William* and *True Briton* arrived March 30, and the *Swallow* snow on April 11. Major Stringer Lawrence has taken his seat as Third of Council. The Company says he is to draw the same pay, etc., as Major Knipe; but as it is not known what that was, have fixed his salary as Major at £300, with allowances of 50 Pags. a month, and with £70 a year as Third of Council. He is showing great activity and the garrison has improved more than could have been expected in so short a time. Of the Madras servants, have entertained Matthew Empson, William Smyth King, Hugh Morris and John Trenwith, with the same standing as they had at Madras, allowing them to count as service the time between the capture of Madras and their re-entertainment, without which they would not have rejoined. Have promised the same to Clive, Maskelyne and Bulkeley, now serving as Ensigns. The other Madras servants here have refused to rejoin at present.

The merchants have promised about 3,000 bales by September, provided they receive sufficient advances. Hope to have bales enough for 2 ships; but as there is no beating-godown and but few washers, may not be able to cure them all. Have despatched the *Prince William* and *True Briton* to Bengal with 40 chests of rupees. The latter also carried money and stores for the Northern factories. Our Vakil returned from Nasir Jang March 18. He succeeded in getting rid of the Pathan horse he had contracted for, and brought friendly letters from Nasir Jang and others and farmans to the various officers of the province to assist the English. Believe the country wishes well to us, as the fall of Madras has been succeeded by a great stagnation of trade. The expense of the expedition has been small considering Nasir Jang's rank.

Jackson died here March 20, and Sidney Foxall April 4. The death of the latter is the more unlucky as no one has the least knowledge of assaying, and the Mint shroffs must be implicitly trusted for the fineness of the pagodas. Hope an Assay-master and Assistant may be sent out. The Mint is at present under the inspection of William Holt who lives in Cuddalore.

As the French have a troop of horse which have been making raids near the Bounds, have been obliged to raise one also, on Lawrence's advice. Lieutenant Gingins and Hallyburton have been appointed Lieutenants and Ensign Cheeseborough Cornet.

Have only been able to provide horses, etc., for 30, but hope shortly to raise it to 100.

Desire copies of the last books sent home from Madras and of such other books and papers as the Company considers necessary. The Madras conicoplies left their palm-leaf accounts behind them when they left the place. No covenanted servant here thinking himself qualified to act as Sub-Accountant, have appointed Charles Hopkins who kept the Madras accounts latterly, and have nominated him a factor as he was not willing otherwise to accept the post.

Some chintz saved from Madras is now being finished; and Coja Mirza has furnished dyed Masulipatam goods for the provision of which he had received an advance from Madras. The Fort St. David merchants after much pressing are about to pay off one-third of their old balances and promise the remainder in 3 months; these terms have been accepted as they are engaged in this year's investment. Send a list of certain bonds granted by Morse, etc., at Madras; but the list is believed to be incomplete. John Gray, formerly Master-Carpenter at Madras, has petitioned, stating that, when the French Squadron arrived off the Coast, he was ordered to make a great number of gun-carriages, but that, being unable to get an advance from Council, he borrowed money from various inhabitants, who are now demanding repayment. He bore a good character at Madras and has been diligent and useful here. Peter Dencker has also petitioned for payment for provisions supplied to the garrison at Madras from August 18 to September 7, 1746.

The Governor, etc., of Negapatam have written announcing that they have received orders to do all possible damage to the French by land and sea.

The diamonds, etc., registered amount to 2,500 Pags.

Appended are:—(1) register of diamonds; (2) list of 13 bonds granted by the Governor, etc., of Madras amounting to 103,048 Pags.; and (3) list of the packet.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO JOHN HINDE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JULY 24, 1747. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 51, *pp.* 47-49 (*Original* 3 *pp.*)]

Acknowledge the receipt on April 20 of the despatch dated October 17, 1746. Letters overland from Bombay announce the repulse of the French before Fort St. David. Constitute Fort St. David the head-settlement, and appoint John Hinde, President and Governor of all the Company's settlements on the Coromandel, Orissa and Sumatra coasts, with Edward Croke, Stringer

Lawrence, Charles Floyer, William Holt, Alexander Wynch and Thomas Cooke Junior as Council. Lawrence and the officers who accompanied him must act in the Fort St. David garrison. Enclose copy of a resolution of a General Court, and forbid any treaty to be made with any country or other power for the ransom of Madras. In case the Nawab should restore Madras to the English, all effects are to be removed to Fort St. David and bare possession kept of Madras. The service of the Madras servants was terminated by the capture of the place; but those judged suitable may be re-admitted and the rest may be allowed a reasonable subsistence. Sanction such expense as may be necessary to fortify and secure Fort St. David. Hinde may nominate a provisional successor.

Enclose a list of the investment; the Madras merchants should be encouraged as much as possible to come and perform their contracts at Fort St. David. The *Porto Bello* should be returned to England at once with all the fine goods on hand. Have ordered the other presidencies to carry on a friendly correspondence with Fort St. David and concert proper measures for the Company's security. Fordyce and Rider (appointed Chaplains at Madras) are to be entertained at Fort St. David on the usual terms. The new President and Council are to receive the salaries and allowances that were given at Madras. Bills may be drawn, for money paid into cash, at 90 days' sight at 8*s*. the pagoda for Company's servants or in return for coral sent for Europe, and at 7*s*. 8*d*. for all other persons and accounts. Lawrence, though of Council, is not to be embarrassed with any affairs other than the care of the military. A clear statement is required of all demands due for money borrowed at Madras; no payments of such are to be made till further orders.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO JOHN HINDE, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. OCTOBER 16, 1747. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 51, *pp.* 51-53 *(Original* 3 *pp.)*]

Overland news from Bombay has reported 'your gallant brave defence' against the French till Griffin's arrival in March. Highly approve Captain Sumner's conduct in bringing the *Britannia* to Fort St. David. This supply of money and goods must have been exceedingly welcome. Have taken up 2 more ships since the last despatch. 'On our strenuous application' the King is sending a strong Squadron under Rear-Admiral Boscawen, under whose orders the Company's shipping is now sent. When the Admiral has no more need of them, they will pass under the Council's authority.

As soon as possible 4 ships, with lead on board, 10 chests of treasure each, and such suitable goods as may be available, are to be despatched to China, consigned to the supercargoes at Canton, or, if there should be none there by the 20th of October to the Captains acting in council with the linguist James Flint who constantly resides there. All surplus treasure to be sent to Bengal, and the shipping disposed of to the best advantage. The ships bring out more cannon than required by the charterparties; all such surplus cannon are to be delivered to the Council with their carriages, shot, etc., and also 'the Orlopes on board' in case they are not taken by the Admiral. In case Boscawen requires assistance against the French, all the Company's forces that can be spared are to be put under his command.

Shall send perpetuanoes to Portsmouth in hopes of their arriving in time to be laded. £1,500 worth of foreign silver to be delivered to Captain James Cumming of the *Royal Duke* as part of his privilege.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO CHARLES FLOYER, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JANUARY 27 AND FEBRUARY 3, 1748. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 51, *pp.* 55-63 (*Original* 9 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of October 16, 1747, despatched by 11 ships. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches, dated January 10, 1747 (by Hugonin) and May 2 and 15 (by the *Lapwing*). This goes by the *Hardwicke*. She has aboard 300 bales of broadcloth, and 50 tons of iron to be forwarded to Bengal; also 30 bales of long ells and 70 tons of lead to be sent with 25 chests of silver to China. The *Scarborough*, *Duke of Dorset* and *Wager* are laded chiefly with naval stores for the Squadron. When these are landed the ships are to be sent to China with 25 chests of treasure each and the lead and long ells already on board. These ships must be sent at all events to China besides the 4 mentioned in the despatch of October 16, in order to reduce the tonnage to be filled up in India. In case the latter 4 ships have not been despatched, 10 more chests of treasure are to be put aboard each. There are great debts in Bengal; so as much treasure must be sent thither as possible. There is a great demand for calicoes and beteellas in Europe; all the cloth possible must be secured according to the last investment list. Monson reports that the new merchants' balances at Madras amounted to 16,000 Pags. when the place was taken; these must be recovered as well as the old

merchants' balances (18,478 Pags. on January 31, 1745), and what was due from the Chintadripet Managers (10,065 Pags. on the same date), reasonable time for payment being allowed. Approve the opening of a gold and silver mint at Cuddalore; one of the covenanted servants should be trained in assaying under Sidney Foxall, who is to be employed on his old salary until the Company reinstates him. The desertion of the English by the Nawab and his sons offers a warning against trusting the Country powers too far or paying them more than is necessary. Trust that, as not only the Company's property but also the property and liberty of all the English at Fort St. David are at stake, the new works are adequate to the defence of the place. Confirm Charles Floyer as President and Governor; Edward Croke as Second (his refusal of the Governorship being approved); Stringer Lawrence as Third; Richard Prince as Fourth and to succeed as Governor in case of Floyer's death or absence; and Thomas Saunders, William Holt, Robert Goodere, Alexander Wynch, and Foss Westcott as Fifth, etc., of Council. Each member is to take an oath of fidelity to the Company and give the usual security. Vacancies to be filled by the next in standing according to the list sent home by the *Lapwing* until it is decided whether the Madras servants shall be readmitted. Will await the result of the embassy to Nizam-ul-mulk before deciding anything about John Hallyburton.

As the Lieutenants of the Madras garrison 'did not forfeit their honours by its loss' and have behaved well since, Captains' commissions may be granted to such as Council deems proper. 'Be sure to encourage Ensign Clive in his martial pursuits according to his merit; any improvement he shall make there shall be duly regarded by us.' Will send all the recruits that can be got.

An accurate account of the quick stock must be sent by every ship. All coin and bullion to be kept by the President, Second and Fourth, 'except a running cash of 20,000 Pags.' kept by the President. Muster-rolls of the garrison, lists of marriages, births and burials, and lists of the inhabitants must be sent annually. As the Roman Catholic priests and inhabitants at Madras have ever acted treacherously, especially at its capture, Roman Catholics may have no church or priests in the English bounds, nor publicly profess their religion. Understand that an Italian priest, turned out of the bounds by Hinde, has since been readmitted; disapprove of this. Have decided that the *Delawar* be sent on to the Malabar coast to be laded for Benjar and China. The Madras servants may be continued in employment till the Company has decided about their reinstatement. The *Dolphin* has been ordered to call at

Fort St. David on her way from Bombay to Bengal. La Bourdonnais has recently been seized at Falmouth on his way home from St. Eustacia. Any French prisoners taken in India who cannot be exchanged should be sent to Europe not more than 15 on any one ship. Have received application from Mrs. Madeiros for the payment of 3 bonds for 35,000 Pags. and 30,000 Rs., lent by her husband to the Governor, etc., at Madras in 1745. Repeat the former orders for a full statement of the claims for money lent at Madras.

Postscript: 16 more chests of silver are to be sent to China. In case of need, writers may be summoned to Fort St. David from Sumatra.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO CHARLES FLOYER, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. FEBRUARY 10, 1748. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 51, *pp.* 65–68 (*Original* 4 *pp.*)]

This goes by the *Dolphin*, which, in case of danger from French ships, will sail direct to Fort St. David. Repeat orders about the Madras debts and other paragraphs of the last despatch. Have engaged Captain Alexander Delavaux * as Chief Engineer and Captain of the Train of Artillery, on a salary of £200 a year commencing from Christmas last, payable at 9*s*. the pagoda. He is to have an apartment in the Fort, diet-money, a palankin and servants as one of Council, with his travelling expenses when on the Company's business. He will receive the same military and other honours as one of Council. Separate instructions have been given to Floyer about him. Thomas Heath entertained with rank as writer to serve under Delavaux. Special care must be taken about all accounts of advances, etc., to the Admiral and the securing of proper bills of exchange.

SEPARATE DESPATCH PER LAPWING FROM THE COMPANY TO [CHARLES FLOYER] GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. DAVID. EAST INDIA HOUSE. FEBRUARY 10, 1748. [*Letter Book, Vol.* 27, *pp.* 66–69 (*India Office transcript.*)]

When the settlements were first founded, the fortifications were planned unskilfully and are so extensive as to require larger garrisons than the Company can maintain. Also the inhabitants have in times past been allowed to build, etc., too close to

* In the List of soldiers on the *Lapwing* (p. 149 of the Despatch volume) he is described as a Prussian 40 years of age.

the walls. To remedy these defects, have appointed Captain Alexander Delavaux Chief Engineer of all the Company's settlements. On arrival at Fort St. David, he shall survey all military works to enable him to decide what changes are necessary to render them capable of being defended by a garrison of not more than 600. He shall then make plans of the fortifications as they are and of the alterations he proposes to make, providing for proper casemates, bomb-proofs, magazines, godowns for the Company's business and a supply of good water. The plans are to be considered in consultation with Lawrence, proper estimates framed and the necessary materials provided with the greatest frugality. Work people are to be under the direction of the Engineer, and not to be otherwise employed. The Engineer is to be allowed what clerks are necessary to keep and check the accounts of the stores, etc., and peons to keep the workmen to their duty. A Company's servant shall be appointed Paymaster to pay for all materials and to pay the wages of the work people, etc., on the Engineer's certificates. A separate account shall be kept of all expenses on military works. No buildings shall be erected and no gardens allowed so near the fortifications as to obstruct their defence. The Engineer shall prepare a plan and mark out the distance within which it will be necessary to demolish all buildings in case of attack. The owners of such houses must be warned. In case of difference of opinion between Lawrence and the Engineer, they shall put it in writing for the Governor's decision. These opinions and all resolutions about military works shall be entered in a separate book. Send a set of mathematical instruments for the use of the Engineer. They are to be checked every year. In case of the Engineer's death, the Governor shall select a proper person to act for him till the Company can appoint a successor. Any civil or military servant with a taste for engineering is to be instructed by the Engineer. Propose to form a Company of Artillery at each presidency and send out men for the purpose by the next ship. All sober and able bodied soldiers are to be encouraged to learn the gun exercise, and may be preferred to the Artillery Company where the pay will be rather better. Reasonable allowance of gunpowder, shot and shells is to be made for the purpose of the exercise.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1748-1749.

DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. SEPTEMBER 2, 1748. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 16, *pp.* 102–110 (*Copy* 8½ *pp.*) *Damaged.*]

The Company's ships *Lapwing, Scarborough, Duke of Dorset, Wager* and *Hardwicke* arrived between June 8 and July 8. On July 26 arrived His Majesty's ships *Namur, Deptford* and *Young Eagle,* bomb-tender. On July 27 arrived His Majesty's ships *Vigilant, Pembroke, Chester, Ruby, Swallow* sloop, *Basilisk* bomb, *Apollo* hospital ship, *St. Francis* snow, and *Porto Bello* tender, with the Company's ships *Delawar, Edgebaston, Chesterfield, Admiral Vernon, Rhoda, Royal Duke, Lincoln, Edgecote, Elizabeth, Fort St. George* and *Royal George.* His Majesty's ship *Deal Castle* arrived August 4. The *Scarborough, Duke of Dorset* and *Wager,* after landing the King's stores, were despatched for China. Of the 4 China ships that arrived with Boscawen, 2 were despatched August 29, the watering and victualling the fleet and landing the Artillery having occupied all the boats and catamarans for some time; the other 2 will be despatched when Boscawen needs them no longer.

Have laded on the *Benjamin* (which carries this) 200 bales of cloth and 20 candies of redwood. She will be filled up with pepper and despatched to England from Sumatra. Regret the impossibility of lading another ship. The merchants now say that they promised 3,000 bales by mistake, that they never meant more than 1,500, and that they had brought in 770 bales with great difficulty owing to the troubles occasioned by the deaths of the Moghal and Nizam-ul-mulk.

Should have sent the *Lapwing* with rupees to Bengal, but for the appearance of a French Squadron of 8 sail on June 10. Griffin was in the road with His Majesty's ships *Princess Mary, Exeter, York, Harwich, Preston, Eltham, Pearl, Medway's Prize* and *Lively,* and the Company's ships *Winchelsea, Bombay Castle* and *Exeter.* About 11 that night he weighed and stood to the northward. But the

French ships never came near Pondichery, landing their treasure and recruits in two hours at Madras; they also left there the *Princess Amelia* (fitted as a hospital-ship) and a sloop. As it was likely the French had sailed for Bengal, the *Lapwing* was detained till further orders. The *Exeter* and *Winchelsea* were sent on the 25th under convoy of the *Medway's Prize* and *Apollo* with 75 chests of treasure for Bengal and 32,000 Madras Pags. with 2 chests of treasure for the Northern settlements. Will send 75 more chests of treasure by the *Porto Bello* and *Bombay Castle*, and will then have 140 chests remaining for the War, the investment, etc.

When Griffin sailed in pursuit of the French, Dupleix thought it an opportunity to attack Cuddalore. 2,000 men (of whom deserters reported 900 to be Europeans) marched out on the night of June 16, and at noon next day they were reported 4 miles due west of Cuddalore. Lawrence ordered a party of sepoys into Cuddalore and went there himself in the evening. The French attacked briskly about a quarter past nine, but retreated in less than an hour with the loss of their Commanding Officer, 30 Europeans and 50 sepoys, besides many deserters. Could a field-piece or two have been sent into Cuddalore as well as the sepoys, the enemy's loss would have been much greater; but the English having given out that they intended to abandon Cuddalore on the approach of the French, the latter were so surprised that they made no further attempt on the place.

As soon as Boscawen's troops were landed, they camped east of the Garden House till the stores and train were ashore. On August 8, the King's and Company's troops marched, but were so hindered by their baggage that they only reached Ariyankuppam, on the 12th. The fort there was so strong that it was not taken till the 19th. Lawrence and Captain Bruce (of the Independents) were made prisoners in an attack on the English trenches. The Company's troops however were gallantly rallied by Captain Hollond who drove the French out again. Hollond has received a musket-shot in his shoulder. Lawrence has written to say that he and Bruce are being very well-treated. John Hallyburton has been shot by a sepoy whom he was reprimanding for some fault; the murderer was at once cut to pieces by his companions. The troops are now camped north of Pondichery, where they are landing heavy artillery and carrying on approaches.

The *Princess Augusta* brought a cargo of timber and arrack from Batavia in May. Other shipping news.

If the Company's orders to close the Roman Catholic Church were executed, not one of the 529 topasses in garrison would remain. Lawrence considered they behaved very well in the attack on Cuddalore, and did not think the risk of losing them should be run. None have deserted, though it would not be possible to prevent them from doing so if they wished. The orders shall be carried out as soon as there are Europeans enough in the garrison.

The Madras merchants have been summoned to settle their accounts. Hopkins who was Sub-Accountant was ill for a while, and then found that the charge of the boats when Boscawen's Squadron arrived would take up most of his time; so he resigned and has been struck off the list of covenanted servants. John Duncumbe, who is said to be experienced in book-keeping, has been appointed Sub-Accountant. Send accounts of advances to ships' Captains for provisions and to Belsches for the Naval hospital. The Fort St. David works are at a stand-still as Boscawen has most of the bricklayers with him. The Governor, etc., return thanks for their appointment and will find the required sureties. Wynch has accompanied Boscawen to camp. The embassy to Nasir Jang cost 20,518 Pags.

Appended are:—(1) sailing orders for the *Benjamin*; and (2) list of the packet.

DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. OCTOBER 11, 1748. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 16, *pp.* 110—112 (*Copy* 2½ *pp.*)]

Have laded 300 bales of cloth and 30 tons of redwood on board the *Oxford* which is being sent to fill up with pepper at Tellicherry. Prince and Westcott arrived September 28 and have taken their seats in Council. Father Severini has applied for repayment of a bond for 6,000 Pags. given by the Governor, etc., of Madras for money received on account of the orphans. Mrs. Medeiros has also applied for the repayment of her 3 bonds. Boscawen has been forced to raise the siege of Pondichery by the lateness of the season and the sickliness of his people. 1,000 are now in hospital. The troops returned here October 7. Shipping news, etc.

Postscript—October 12: Have drawn bills on the Company for £100.

Appended is the list of the packet.

DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. OCTOBER 17, 1748. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 16, *pp.* 113–117 (*Copy* 4½ *pp.*)]

Sent by the *Swift* snow which Floyer is sending to England. Since September 2, Lieutenant Browne of the Bengal detachment and Ensign Wright of the Bombay detachment have been killed. Enclose a return of the losses of the Company's troops before Pondichery. Boscawen is discussing an exchange of prisoners with Dupleix who is willing to give up all but Lawrence. Boscawen has replied that unless Lawrence is included, all his prisoners shall be sent to Europe. Captain Morgan having resigned, Captain Hollond (who is almost recovered of his wound) is acting as Commandant.

It is generally believed that the Charter for the Mayor's Court at Madras gives the Council no power to establish a Civil Court at Fort St. David; desire the Company's instructions.

Shipping news. Prince has been made Paymaster; Wynch, Import Warehouse-keeper and Customer of Devanampattanam; Westcott, Store-keeper and Scavenger; Saunders, Chief of Vizagapatam; Goodere, Resident at Ingeram; Churchey, Second; and Banks Third at Vizagapatam. Charles Nicholls (Resident at Negapatam) died in July; he has been replaced by Peter St. Paul who came out with Boscawen and speaks several languages. Diamonds registered amount to 65,557 Pags.

Postscript—October 19: Captain John de Morgan has delivered in a Madras bond for 1,200 Pags., dated 1745.

Appended are:—(1) register of diamonds; and (2) list of the packet.

DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. JANUARY 16, 1749. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 17, *pp.* 1–4 (*Copy* 3½ *pp.*)]

This goes by the *Lapwing*, ordered to call in for despatches. Will write more fully sending books, papers, etc., by the ships expected from Bengal, *Porto Bello, True Briton* or *Winchelsea*. Will not be able to fill all; so one must be sent to fill with pepper at Tellicherry. Acknowledge the receipt of despatch of May 10, 1748, sent overland. As Boscawen will discharge the Company's ships on their return here after the monsoon, have sent the *Colchester* with some redwood and saltpetre to fill at Tellicherry, where there are 1,200 tons of surplus pepper. Shipping news.

The day after news of the cessation of arms arrived, Boscawen reported it to Dupleix, who at once released Major Lawrence and Captain Bruce on their paroles. On the arrival of the *Favorite* at Pondichery on January 7, he released his other prisoners also and Lawrence was able to take charge again of the garrison from Captain Hollond, who had become the senior officer on Captain de Morgan's resignation owing to age and ill-health. Hollond held the command on the same terms as Captain Gibson, and now, as there is no more prospect of active service, he will take the first ship to Bengal. Morgan's vacancy was filled with William Henry Southby, a Lieutenant of Marines recommended by Boscawen. When Gingins was appointed to the Troop of Horse, John Scrimsour, the next senior officer, was given his company with the proviso that, if the Company disallowed the Troop, he was to surrender the Captaincy to Gingins; in Scrimsour's room promoted James Cope, Lieutenant and Adjutant, in reward for his pains in disciplining the Military. Needing another Artillery officer, gave a commission to Peter Nost, Bombardier of His Majesty's Train; at present he is serving as an Ensign in the Military but will shortly be made a Lieutenant in the Artillery.

Will have about 1,500 bales to send home besides the 500 sent by the *Benjamin* and *Oxford.* Consider them of pretty good quality, but the prices of some varieties had to be raised 2 Pags. the corge, as inferior cloth was coming in owing to the troubles and the dearness of cotton. The French buying nothing and the Dutch little, could have had a much greater number of bales if the merchants could have been supplied with more money; but 'the prodigious expenses we have been at lately' and the uncertainty of the next supply, prevented large advances being given.

Have permitted Lennox to remain in India as he has not been able to collect in all his effects, or dispose of all his goods, which the expected peace may probably permit him to do. Enclose an account of the expenses of the siege of Pondichery, amounting to 94,558 Pags. and a statement of the stores expended; applied to Boscawen for reimbursement and enclose the correspondence. On his representing that the subsistence money allowed by His Majesty was insufficient to maintain the men, and giving in a list of what further allowance should be made to the officers and privates, the extra allowance was granted as there was great discontent amongst them.

The *Porto Bello* and *True Briton* have now arrived. Have not yet received the accounts from the subordinate factories to permit

sending a statement of the Company's quick stock. Diamonds registered 100,470 Pags.

Appended are :—(1) register of diamonds ; (2) manifest of sundries shipped as presents ; and (3) list of the packet.

DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. FEBRUARY 22, 1749. [*Public Despatches to England*, *Vol.* 17, *pp.* 10–31 (*Copy* 21½ *pp.*)]

Cite despatches of April 25, September 2, October 11 and 17, 1748, and January 16. Now write by the *Porto Bello*. By His Majesty's ship *Tartar* on January 28 and Company's ship *Pelham* on February 2 received despatches of May 18 and June 27 [*Wanting*]. Most of the Squadron is now refitting at Crankanella Bay, whither the *Pelham* has gone to deliver her naval stores. Other shipping news. Though there was an unexpectedly large amount of tonnage, hoped with all the unbleached cloth in the warehouse, with what more could speedily be procured, and with redwood and saltpetre, to be able to fill both the *Porto Bello* and *Winchelsea*, the *True Briton* being sent to fill with pepper at Tellicherry ; but the *Winchelsea* brought only 314 instead of 700 bales from Vizagapatam and Ingeram (200 bales were badly wetted going down the river from Ingeram and could not be sent off), so that only the *Porto Bello* can be laded home, and the *Winchelsea* must be sent to bring pepper, timber, etc., from Malabar, and (it is hoped) will be despatched for Europe in May. All this might have been avoided if the *Porto Bello* had been ordered in Bengal to call for the Northern bales, for then the *Winchelsea* would have arrived in time to be sent to fill with pepper, and the *Porto Bello* and the *True Briton* (smaller ships) could have been fully laded at Fort St. David. Other shipping news. The *Princess Augusta* has been sent to Bengal, and the *Brilliant* to Bombay, for repairs. Byers, Captain of the latter, having died on October 29, has been replaced by Edward Burman, Lieutenant in the Artillery and an experienced seaman, on condition that this service shall not prejudice his rank in the Army.

On application to Boscawen, the treasure on the *Tartar* was landed here for coinage, and that by the *Pelham* is now being coined. Shall forward a great part of it to Bengal ; 45 chests of rupees already sent. Of the treasure received last year, 190 chests of rupees were sent to Bengal ; that was all that could be spared, and when the *Tartar* and *Pelham* arrived, there was little left in cash. Agreed to sell the broadcloth to the Fort St. David merchants on the terms usual at Madras ; but they crying off, it was

all sold to Linga Chetti at the same rate, on his agreeing to pay for the whole within 12 months. Have sent to Bengal large quantities of the lead and iron on the ships that came out with Boscawen. Have sold the Madeira wine already received at 50 Pags. the pipe. The country ship *Fort St. George* was laded at Vizagapatam with 20 pipes of that brought out by the *Oxford* but was chased off Madras by one of His Majesty's ships and has not since been heard of; fear she is either lost or taken. 75 barrels of gunpowder landed from the *Porto Bello*, etc., was so bad that it had to be re-made. Rice and wheat sent from Bengal were not only extremely bad but deficient in weight. Linga Chetti reports that the dollars sent out by the *Tartar* are of a new sort, and of inferior fineness, being 4 dwt. worse than standard; those sent by the *Pelham* are the same.

On receiving treasure by the *Porto Bello*, etc., contracted at once with the merchants for an investment. Including the bales sent by the *Benjamin* and *Oxford*, have provided 2,103 bales; could not make advances for a larger quantity owing to the expense of the fortifications and other calls. Expected a considerable investment from the Northern factories, which were kept well supplied with money; but the disturbances arising from disputes between the Nawab and the Rajahs prevented more than 514 bales being provided, of which 200 had to be returned to be repacked. But this year have better prospects both there and here. 200 bales of unbleached cloth were laded on the *Porto Bello* when it was hoped to send the *Winchelsea* home as well; and these have had to be continued on board as it would take too long to replace them by others. Bleaching has been greatly hindered by much rain in December and cloudy weather in the beginning of January.

Floyer wrote to the Madras merchants about their balances, and several answered that they were coming to Fort St. David; none have come yet, because their losses at Madras have made them shy of coming so near to the French at Pondichery; but the prospect of peace will doubtless remove their fears. The Fort St. David merchants have cleared their balances.

A present of about 1,000 Pags. was ordered to be prepared for the Nawab when he visited Porto Novo, but he made so short a stay that the present was not made. At present the country is quiet and there has been little correspondence with the country powers. The work on the fortifications had to be suspended on Boscawen's arrival, the coolies and artificers being needed at camp; but hope to complete by May or June the hornwork, the lunettes

on the east and west, and the glacis, together with the works begun at Cuddalore. Delavaux has proposed a new work to strengthen the southern face of the Fort next the river; his plan has been approved by Floyer and Lawrence, and will be put in hand when the other works are complete. The Company will be able to judge its utility by the plan of the Fort now sent. The progress made since the despatch by the *Warwick* is particularised in Floyer's despatch to the Secret Committee.

Have built a godown near the Bandipalaiyam washing-place for the cloth in process of being bleached, as much was being damaged by rats and white ants. Have also built stabling for 110 horses for the Troop. 13,581 Pags. awarded as compensation for houses pulled down in Devanampattanam and the Colloway, to be distributed by Croke and Wynch. On July 1, 1748, the cowle for the Bounds Rent was renewed for 5 years at the increased rent of 4,000 Pags. a year to the old renter, it having been long rented by his family and the increased rent being as much as was offered by others. The Arrack Farm has been suspended, as on Lawrence's recommendation the retailing of spirits was prohibited within the Bounds. During the siege of Pondichery, the Land-duty on grain was taken off to encourage its import.

Robert Turing, long in the Company's service and Surgeon at Vizagapatam, has been brought down to assist Belsches as Second Surgeon here, the work being too great for one man. Turing highly deserves the Company's favour. Have readmitted Richard Starke and John Pybus to the Company's service with their old standing; Starke is Upper-Searcher in the Cuddalore Customs-house and Pybus Sub-Secretary. Richard Fairfield and John Starke, sent out as writers for Madras, have been brought down from Bengal, whither they went as Madras was taken. Delavaux represents that Thomas Heath has no turn for engineering; so he is employed under the Accountant. On Foxall's death appointed William Holt to supervise the Mint on half the salary allowed to Foxall; he refused to accept less than the full salary; but this was refused, as he knows nothing of assaying; so at present he has no allowance as Assay-Master. Thomas Cooke, allowed to visit Bengal on private affairs in October, has just returned. Richard Rider, appointed Chaplain at Madras, died at Batavia on his way from Sumatra to Fort St. David. Have allowed 8 Pags. a month each to Phoebe Graham and Elizabeth Smith, as they are in poor circumstances and their late husbands were pretty high in the Company's service. John Savage, late of Council at Madras, died in July. On

Delavaux' arrival, George Jones handed over charge of the works and the Train, and went to Tranquebar. When the troops set out for Pondichery, Lawrence required more officers ; so on Boscawen's recommendation Thomas Greenville and Allen Stuart (who came out with him as volunteers) were made Ensigns ; the latter has since resigned. Have given the Lieutenants commissions as Captains, and appointed John Scrimsour Lieutenant of Lawrence's company as a reward for his conduct when the French attacked Cuddalore. Benjamin Pigou has been made Ensign. The European privates were rewarded for their conduct at Cuddalore with 2 shirts each, the sepoys' Chiefs with a few yards of broadcloth and their people with a turban or sash each. On de Morgan's resignation, he applied for something more than half-pay, in consideration of his poverty and large family ; have allowed him a pension of 25 Pags. a month till the Company's pleasure is known. James Cope has been promoted Captain-Lieutenant on Lawrence's advising that there was generally an officer of that rank in the 1st company. The officers of His Majesty's Train having no commissions under that of Lieutenant, corresponding commissions were given to those of the Company's Train. During the siege, Boscawen reported that the Company's troops needed more officers to perform the necessary duty, and recommended some of his volunteers. So John Grant, William Boyde, Matthew Samson, Samuel Samson, and John Innis were made Ensigns ; and Samuel Worral, Cornet. Boyde and Matthew Samson have since resigned, and their places have been filled by William Gordon and Peter Nost. Lawrence Donaldson and John Brooks, who came out with Lawrence, and Ensign William de Morgan died last year. The last had property amounting to 262 Pags. Ensign Love commanding at Vizagapatam has been promoted Lieutenant on Prince's recommendation. The Troop of horse is of infinite service, as it can be relied on ; its expense will be more than recouped by the dismissal of peons who were of little service at Pondichery ; and it will be extremely useful in releasing goods stopped in the country, etc. Boscawen agrees that it will be much more useful than peons, of whom he has a poor opinion. The horses have cost 19,412 Pags. Have sent home 3 soldiers unfit for duty who must otherwise have been invalided. The Military Regulations shall be put in execution 'as near as possible'—indeed Lawrence has already introduced most of them.

Have requested Peyton to certify the accounts relating to the Squadron when under his and Barnett's command ; but he objected

that they all related to Barnett's time, and would say no more than that if Morse could produce orders for the purchase of the provisions that were in the warehouse when Madras was taken, the Victualling Board would allow the claim. Now furnish a statement of all the accounts Morse has as yet furnished, but he has many papers still at Tranquebar not yet drawn out into regular accounts.

The wife of Coja Sultan David (formerly an inhabitant of Madras but now residing at Pondichery) drew bills at Ispahan on her husband in favour of the President, etc., of Bombay. They attached 20,000 Rs. of Sultan David's, in the hands of President Wake and also took a bond for 8,580 Rs. from Coja Shawmier (Sultan David's son) for the balance of the bills. This bond was sent to Fort St. David for collection. Sultan David agreed not to contest the attachment of the 20,000 Rs.; but, neither he nor his son having sufficient to pay off the bond in full, he was allowed to offset the amount of the bond against bonds granted him by Morse, etc., at Madras.

On January 23, seven sail of French ships reached Madras where they landed many sick. They are believed to be from the Islands. On their way they captured a Dutch ship from Japan and sent her to the Islands, not knowing of the cessation of arms. Off Pulicat they seized an English country ship and carried her into Madras, but soon released her. On January 29 they came to Pondichery; and on February 11, one sailed for Bengal. The same day 2 French ships arrived, said to be from Europe, with much treasure and many men, but our intelligence is not wholly reliable. 5 are now under sail, said to be bound for France. Will publish the declaration about the Dutch as ordered.

On Griffin's return from Madras in June 1748, he wrote inquiring whether we were able to defend the Fort and Bounds if he went in search of the enemy's Squadron. The opinions of Lawrence and Delavaux were sent, with a state of the garrison, etc. These he laid before a Council of War which resolved to deliver up the Company's ships and the Company's men aboard the Squadron, and to go in search of the enemy, if the Fort, etc., could be defended with the garrison and the men who might be taken from the ships. Lawrence's and Delavaux' opinions were again taken, and the result communicated to Griffin; but he did nothing in consequence. His Majesty's ship *Preston* being condemned, her guns were delivered to Floyer, etc. They were very welcome as most of the guns mounted on the Fort were honey-combed. His Majesty's ship *Medway* has also been condemned and her guns will

be delivered by Boscawen. On May 1, 1748, His Majesty's ship *Medway's Prize* brought in the *Sta. Catarinha*, from Persia. She had a French Commander and was pretty plainly proved to belong to the French. She and her cargo were accordingly sold. Soon after Coja Petrus Uscan wrote from Pulicat that she was owned by Armenian, Portuguese and Muhammadan merchants, whose complaints to the Country Government might injure the Company's investment. He was told in reply that the Council had resolved not to interfere with the Squadron, and then desired that the matter might be referred to Europe. A Balasore grainship going into Madras was taken by the *Benjamin* when under Griffin's orders. She had a French half-caste as Captain. Her cargo was adjudged good prize but she herself was released. On the owners' complaint, the Country Government is hindering the Company's business in Bengal. The *Bombay Castle* also took a Jedda ship commanded by a Frenchman. She and her cargo were sold, on which Floyer applied to the Prize Agent desiring him to deposit the proceeds in the Company's treasury till she should have been condemned in England; but this was refused. When on the Malabar coast with His Majesty's ships *Exeter* and *Winchester*, Captain Pawlett bought fresh provisions at Tellicherry, paying for them by bill on Griffin's Agent-Victualler; but the latter refusing them, Pawlett gave bills on the Admiralty.

Supplement: For lack of a proper person to register wills, the wills of various persons who have died have been entered on the Consultations. Morse has put in claims on the Company for 30,000 Pags. under bonds dated at Madras, June 12, and September 30, 1746. Ships' Captains refuse to pay for gunnybags for their ballast. Samuel Harrison owes the church stock 2,000 Pags. lent upon his house at Madras. Have asked Mrs. Harrison for payment, but she answers that she is just going to Europe and has already remitted all her husband's money thither. Have laded 938 bales on this ship; her Fort St. David cargo is invoiced at 102,207 Pags. Balance in Cash, 21,635 Pags. Diamonds registered 76,007 Pags. Certificates granted for 116 Pags., for the estate of Oswald Saw deceased.

Postscript: Bills drawn on the Company for 456 Pags.; also for 4,246 Pags., proceeds of a prize cargo received into the Company's Cash last August.

Appended are:—(1) sailing orders for the *Porto Bello*; (2) register of diamonds; (3) list of the packet; and (4) manifest of sundries licensed as presents.

DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. MAY 11, 1749. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 17, *pp.* 40–43 (*Copy* 2½ *pp.*)]

Have to report the loss of above 40 vessels on this Coast in a violent storm on April 13 and 14. The losses include His Majesty's ships *Namur* and *Pembroke*, which were lying at anchor in the Fort St. David roads. They cut their cables; but the *Namur* having lost all her masts, anchored to avoid running on the Coleroon Point and foundered; the *Pembroke* * ran on the Point as she was trying to weather it with all sails set, and split at once. Nearly 900 men perished on these 2 ships, and only 35 were saved. No news has been received of His Majesty's ships *Apollo* and *St. Francis* snow, which are believed to be lost with 340 men aboard. The Company's ships *Winchelsea* and *Lincoln* drove ashore a little south of the Fort, but only 2 or 3 people were drowned, as the surf threw them pretty high on the shore. The *Princess Augusta* was wrecked half-way between here and Porto Novo, but most of her crew were saved. His Majesty's ships *Tartar*, *Deal Castle* and *Swallow*, which had sailed south with the Company's ship *Edgebaston*, lost all their masts. The last-named was driven ashore off Pondichery, but was got off with the aid of Dupleix and has sailed for Bengal. The Company's ships *Somerset*, *Royal George* and *Rhoda* met the storm at sea on their way from Bengal, but suffered little, except that the *Rhoda* had to cut away her top masts. The French and Dutch have suffered equally. 3 ships and 2 small vessels belonging to the French drove ashore between here and Pondichery. One is said to have been a 60-gun ship, but all her crew were saved; another was bringing cannon from Madras and foundered on the way. The Dutch have lost several ships, but the exact number is unknown. There was a violent gale on the Malabar coast on April 14, when a Company's sloop was lost on her way to Anjengo. His Majesty's ship *Syren* was refreshing her people at Colombo, and so escaped this disaster. She arrived April 30. She had 50 chests of treasure for Bengal; these were landed here as only 4 chests of treasure remained with which to equip the China ships. Will despatch 4 shortly. Will send the *Royal George* to Batavia for arrack and timber. Shipping news.

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* The Journal of the Master of the *Pembroke* is printed among the appendices to Cambridge's *History of the War*.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO CHARLES FLOYER, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. MAY 10, 1748. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 52, *pp.* 27-28 (*Original* 2 *pp.*)]

Send copy of the Royal Proclamation declaring the cessation of arms, under which hostilities are to cease in the East Indies 6 months after April 19/30. The Company's ships are therefore to be ordered to put into St. Helena and then make for the Downes as was usual before the War. Arrival of ships. Are preparing to despatch the *Somerset* and *Pelham* for the Coromandel coast and Bengal. Should any men-of-war be coming home the Indiamen may be ordered to accompany them.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO CHARLES FLOYER, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JUNE 17, 1748. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 52, *pp.* 29-37 (*Original* 9 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of May 10 sent overland, with duplicate sent by His Majesty's ship *Tartar*. The supercargoes and linguist for Benjar and China sail on the *Pelham*; the *Delawar* with 15 chests of silver and the presents for the Sultan of Benjar is to be sent at once to Tellicherry to take in sandalwood. Send new Regulations * for the Military and Artillery at Fort St. David. Cloth for their clothing is to be issued at prime cost, at 8*s.* per pagoda, at which rate the salaries of covenanted servants, military, etc., are also to be paid. Lawrence Witherington entertained as Captain-Lieutenant of the Artillery Company and Director of the Laboratory, on £100 a year commencing from March 7 last; also Henry Learner as First Sergeant of the Train at 2*s.* a day. George Mandeville (supercargo for Benjar and China) permitted to take out 170 yards of broadcloth remnants which are to be sold by the Council and the produce delivered to him. John Hinde's estate may be remitted in bills on the Company at 8*s.* the pagoda. All possible efforts must be made to put the investment in a flourishing way. If the *Somerset* and *Pelham* cannot be sent home with cargoes, they are to bring saltpetre, rice, etc., from Bengal for Fort St. David and then be despatched to China with 10 chests of treasure each.

By the last books received in England there was 'a very handsome balance' to the credit of the Church stock of Fort St. George. This was established so long ago that its origin is unknown, and it would now be difficult to discover whether the gifts and legacies with which it was founded were devoted to a particular purpose or

* The Regulations are printed in Wilson's *Madras Army*, i., pp. 52,etc., and 39, etc.

not and whether the large allowances that were paid to 'the poorer sort' at Madras had not exhausted the funds specially devoted to that purpose. Part of the fund at least arose from trade-profits made by lending money at respondentia, etc.; and before the charter was granted [1726], it was usual for the ministers and Church wardens to take charge of the estates of persons who died leaving children but no will; after the charter was granted, executors and guardians often deposited trust-monies in the Church stock, on account of its stability, accounts being annually produced before the Vestry; on the orphans coming of age, they received their legacies with 5 % interest (though the current rate is 7 or 8 %) less 5 % commission on the whole amount due. It is said that when the French took Madras, the ministers and Churchwardens destroyed the documents, bonds, etc., which they held, in order to prevent them from falling into the hands of the enemy; but several debtors are said to have already executed new bonds, while the rest are willing either to do the same or pay what they owe. As now there are no ministers or Churchwardens in Madras, the Company is willing to receive all outstanding debts; but the greatest caution must be observed to secure a just distribution before any payments are made. Send an account of how matters stood in 1745; this with the help of the late Churchwardens will probably permit the preparation of a statement of all debts and credits of the Fund; under debts the sums due to each orphan and each charity should be severally specified. Interest at 5 % is to be allowed on all sums paid in on this account. Claims arising from any orphan coming of age may be met in the proportion which the total debts bear to the money paid in. It is also reported that there was another fund (between 5 and 10,000 Pags.) for maintaining a Charity school and that trustees were annually appointed. All money due to it should be collected, and information sent regarding its origin, employment and amount.

Absolutely deny the Dutch claims to a monoply of the opium-trade in the Straits of Malacca; if Company's ships are molested, Captains are to be authorized to resist and make reprisals. This order is to be published as the Dutch are said to have done at Surat, etc.

Government have permitted all the officers and men of the Artillery Company and 12 Independent companies with Boscawen to join the Company's service; as many officers may be entertained as there are vacancies for, and as many private men as

possible should be enlisted. Men not needed on the Coast may be sent to Bengal or Bombay. Only officers who have behaved well should be accepted. Non-commissioned officers and privates may be given a bounty of 40 Rs. on enlistment, but those who are promoted on transfer must be content with that instead of any bounty. Major Goodyere is offered the post of Major at Bombay. The Artillery company at Fort St. David is similarly to be filled up, the officers being selected by Floyer, Lawrence and Goodyere or any two of them, preference being given to such of the old gun-room crew as may be fit for promotion. All those who join the Company's service must engage to serve for 5 years except Major Goodyere who is allowed an indefinite time before deciding whether to quit His Majesty's service. The garrison at Bombay has been fixed at 10 companies and that in Bengal at 5 companies of foot, with a company of Artillery at each place.

LETTER FROM CHRISTOPHER MOLE, SECRETARY TO THE COMPANY, TO CHARLES FLOYER, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JUNE 22, 1748. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 52, *p.* 41 (*Original* 1 *p.*)]

The Company has been unable to recover the money paid to Belsches owing to the errors and irregularities of his accounts. The like must be prevented in future. Shipping news.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO CHARLES FLOYER, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JULY 21, 1748. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 52, *p.* 43 (*Copy* 1 *p.*)]

Cite despatch of June 17. Acknowledge the receipt of despatch, dated September 27, and a letter from Floyer, dated October 8. As the troubles may be supposed to be over, urge the need of enlarging the investment; fine beteellas are in great demand. The last advices speak of Nasir Jang's coming to help the English; if he does, hope that the Council will remonstrate with him about the English losses caused by want of timely assistance. Sumatra and shipping.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO CHARLES FLOYER, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. DECEMBER 2, 1748. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 52, *pp.* 45–49 (*Original* 5 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of July 21. Have received letters from Floyer, Lawrence and Griffin. Ships' arrivals. The conclusion of peace. All possible means must be taken to send as many ships home as

possible, in order to lighten the burden of demurrage. Ships may be sent home with 50, 100 or even 150 tons of dead freight, and in no case is the charterparty tonnage to be exceeded. 4 ships to be sent home with cargoes of pepper from Malabar or Sumatra. Having considerable stocks of saltpetre, order no more than the charterparty kintledge to be put aboard, and ships with iron or stone kintledge are to be given none. As much cloth as possible is to be obtained. Complaint of 5 pieces of longcloth being short measure. Cargoes should be provided for 4 ships that will call at Fort St. David on their way to China. Complaints of pieces missing from the bales of cloth. This must have been done in the warehouse and those who superintended the packing must make good the loss. Name Lawrence, William Holt and Alexander Wynch as Commissaries on the part of the Company to receive Madras; if any should be dead or absent, the Council will fill up their places. Madras will remain a subordinate settlement till further orders; as much fine cloth as possible is to be procured there; and bales of every kind of muslin that the French usually send to Europe are to be provided. Now that the War is over, the Secret Committee will only give directions about signals as usual. If the fortifications at Fort St. David are not completed, they should be continued gradually and only as far as is absolutely necessary. A plan of the whole is to be sent, and if any alterations are proposed, a plan of them likewise, with an estimate of the cost. No new works are to be undertaken till further orders. Instead of sending ships home with 150 tons of dead freight, they may be filled with 'gruff goods' such as redwood, turmeric and lac. Require a plan of Fort St. George as delivered over by the French; nothing is to be spent on any works there till further orders. 14 chests of treasure sent out for Boscawen's use; should he have left before its arrival, it is to be taken into the Company's treasury and bills drawn on the Company in favour of the Agent, John Calcraft. Have just received the despatches by the *George* snow.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO CHARLES FLOYER, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. DECEMBER 21, 1748. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 52, *pp.* 51–53 (*Original* 3 *pp.*)]

Have sent 4 China ships with some goods and bullion consigned to Fort St. David. They are to be unladed with the greatest despatch and sent on to Canton with the bullion, etc., consigned thither. As much as possible of the 140 chests of

treasure is to be coined and sent to Bengal. As peace has been made, it is likely that many of the Artillery and Independents under Boscawen will join the Company's service; as many as possible of both them and the marines are to be got. Hear that Robert Wynch has been allowed to build a house with a handsome enclosure south of the Garden House and too near the Fort. Forbid the construction of any building that would obstruct the defence of the place. Will send an Assay-Master and Assistant as soon as suitable men can be found. Will also send communion-plate and books 'for the use of your chapel.' Have taken up the *Severn* to carry out stores for the use of the Squadron. In spite of former orders to provide 4 cargoes of goods for China, nothing is to be put aboard the China ships unless it can be done without endangering their passage. The present ship (the *Tavistock*) will bring 100 pipes of Madeira wine for Fort St. David. She also brings 30 chests of treasure to be dealt with in the same way as the 140 chests mentioned above. Her officers are allowed only 20 pipes of wine in their privilege.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO CHARLES FLOYER, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JANUARY 4, 1749. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 52, *p.* 59 (*Original* 1 *p.*)]

Captain Hugh Palliser of His Majesty's ship *Sheerness* appointed to carry His Majesty's orders to Boscawen to assist in the mutual restoration of conquests made in the East Indies. Send 60 chests of treasure on the *Sheerness*. Palliser is to receive 2½ % freight.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO CHARLES FLOYER, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JANUARY 27, 1749. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 52, *pp.* 63–69 (*Original 7 pp.*)]

This goes by the *Britannia* and *Walpole*. Desire in all future advices the same full account of the Company's shipping as in those under reply. Must give timely notice to Bengal of the amount of tonnage that will be needed for the Coast investment. The present ships to be forwarded to Bengal with all despatch, with as many rupees as possible; if coining takes too long, each ship should have in rupees and bullion £50,000.

Have a thorough sense of Griffin's services and care for the Company's interests. Have not been able to comply with all the indents as the Company cannot send out much tonnage while it

has so much still in India. It must be a standing rule to send on to Bengal all the silver that can be spared from the Coast; as much as possible should be coined. Send communion plate and books for the chapel.

Much gratified with the prospect of a good investment; will send plentiful supplies. Furnish a list of what goods are wanted. As many bales as possible must be sent, even if of inferior qualities. Hope that the merchants have by now cleared off their balances. It was fortunate that Nasir Jang backed out of his agreement with the English and that the 300 Pathans were not taken into pay. A good correspondence should be maintained with the Country powers, but at as little expense as possible, for they cannot be depended on.

No grants of land are in future to be made without stipulating that they are to be voidable without compensation in case buildings thereon should obstruct the defence of the place. Acquiesce in the purchase of a house at Porto Novo. As the Dutch insist on maintaining their factory at Devanampattanam, the Company can give no orders until it knows the authority on which their claim is based.

In consideration of the probable recruitment from Boscawen's forces, send no recruits this year. The reasons for establishing Martial Law in the garrison having ceased, the commissions granted for that purpose must be annulled. As the Treaty stipulates that all books and papers are to be restored, send no copies of the Madras accounts, as presumably the originals will be obtained. The Troop of horse is to be disbanded at once, as there can be no further need of it. The Council misunderstood the orders regarding Lawrence's salary, etc.; confirm what has been done in consideration of his past and future services, but no agreement made with the Company is in future to be altered without express permission. Gray's and Dencker's claims will be particularly considered when the other Madras claims are decided on. All the old Madras servants except the late President and Council may be re-entertained; they will rank according to their standing with the rest of the Coromandel Coast establishment next under the President and Council appointed December 24, 1747. Confirm Charles Hopkins' appointment as Sub-Accountant with rank as Factor. The information given about the Madras bonds was inadequate; why were several granted for large sums after the surrender of the place, and what are the other claims mentioned but not particularised? An exact and clear statement of this affair is needed. Morse is to

come home by the next shipping; but during his stay at Fort St. David is to be treated with the respect due to his late station. The Madras writers sent out in 1745 and 1746 who proceeded to Bengal are to join the Coromandel establishment with their original rank. Have entertained Timothy Tullie as a writer. David Lopez Fernandes and Samuel de Castro permitted to reside in India as diamond and coral merchants. John Walsh, who came to England after the fall of Madras for the recovery of his health is allowed to return with his old standing. James Wilson allowed to go to India to succeed to any vacancy as Surgeon where he is wanted. Lieutenant Eckman, in consideration of his age and long service is granted a pension of 150 Pags. a year. The greatest care must be taken about the accounts relating to the Squadron. The bond for 5,000 Pags. granted by Morse, etc., to Michael de Gregorio on August 10, 1745, may be paid off. Will send by the *Severn* 50 chests of silver to be coined and sent to Bengal.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO CHARLES FLOYER, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. MARCH 29, 1749. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 52, *pp.* 73–78 (*Copy* 5¼ *pp.*)]

The *Swift* snow arrived March 3. This goes by the *Severn*, which brings naval stores for the Squadron, for which also 80 tons of salt provisions have been sent on the Bombay ships. Send 59 chests of treasure by the *Severn;* as much as possible to be sent in rupees to Bengal. If possible the *Severn* should be returned to Europe the season of her arrival; but should be kept in India if it is necessary to keep another besides the *Walpole*, as she is a late ship and demurrage will be less. Desire a list of the sailors in the Company's country ships, as relations of the sailors aboard the *Princess Amelia* and *Princess Mary* wish to know whether they are in the Company's service in India. Complain of irregular packing in the recent cargoes of bales, and of putting different sorts of cloth into the same bale without a cloth in between to distinguish them. Repeat previous demands for exact accounts of the Company's quick stock in India. Have appointed Edward Edwards, Factor and Assay-Master on the same salary, etc., that Foxall had; he is to teach the art of assaying to one of the covenanted servants. Norton Nicholls permitted to reside in India as a free merchant, and Francis Hodges and William Dogan as mariners. All servants in stations usually held by covenanted servants must execute the usual covenants and give sureties; send a list of those who have neglected to do so. When any of the junior servants come of age,

they must execute fresh covenants ; and when any one is promoted, they must get friends in England to give the security usual in their new rank. The Company's business is impeded by the neglect and disobedience of the junior servants, especially in the Accountant's office; those guilty of such misconduct must be reported to the Company for suitable punishment ; and future misbehaviour will be imputed to the inattention of the President and Council. An able book-keeper must be made Sub-Accountant; hope John Duncumbe will prove such. Have entertained the Rev. George Swynfen as a Chaplain at Fort St. David on the usual pay. Captain de Morgan's and Father Severini's bonds will be considered along with the other Madras claims. Do not consider that the charter authorizes the establishment of a Mayor's Court at Fort St. David. Trust the investment will have proved larger than was expected. The detention of so much treasure at Fort St. David greatly hindered the Bengal investment.

Note the sharp repulse of the French at Cuddalore by Lawrence's bravery and good conduct. In case of Lawrence's death or absence Captain Hollond is to succeed as Major with the same salary, etc., as a reward for his gallant behaviour. Robert Sloper, reported to have behaved well as a monthly writer at Madras, is appointed Factor, with rank from the arrival of this despatch.

A resolution of a General Court held on December 23, 1747, forbade the payment of any bonds, etc., granted at Madras since August 30, 1746. Several persons having applied for payment of such bonds, it was resolved at a General Court held on March 22, 1749, that the Directors should ascertain in what form, to whom, and on what account the loans were made, and whether the Company is liable for their repayment. A full, clear and distinct account is required, together with all papers at Madras which may bear on the matter.

It is reported that gaming is prevalent at Fort St. David; strict inquiry to be made, as no trust can be placed in persons addicted thereto; those guilty to be reprimanded, suspended, or even dismissed according to the degree of their guilt.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1749–1750.

DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. AUGUST 30, 1749. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 17, *pp.* 43–44 (*Copy* 1¼ *pp.*)]

As a letter overland *viâ* Basra is likely to reach England before any of the September ships, now write by that route to report that Boscawen took possession of Fort St. George on the 21st to the universal joy of the late inhabitants who thronged thither as soon as the English flag was hoisted. All French efforts failed to induce them to return, and the French are mortified at the present token of attachment to the English. Its condition is indifferent; all the fortifications are undermined and all useful stores have been carried off. The *Griffin, Sandwich, Walpole, Dragon, Britannia,* and *Montfort* arrived outward-bound between June 10 and July 30. The *Griffin, Sandwich* and *Montfort* have already been despatched for China, as also the *Pelham, Somerset, Rhoda,* and *Royal Duke* of last year's shipping. The *Walpole* and the *Britannia* have already been despatched with rupees for Bengal, and the *Dragon* will sail with more in a day or two. Other shipping news.

DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. OCTOBER 9, 1749. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 17, *pp.* 45–57 (*Copy* 13 *pp.*)]

Now despatch the *Chesterfield* though all the books and papers are not yet ready. Will write at greater length by the *Royal George* in a few days. The *Severn* arrived on September 8 and sailed shortly for Madras to deliver her naval stores to the Admiral there. She is since reported as having sailed for Bengal. Received by her despatch of March 29. No news of the *Augusta,* except that she was spoken with on June 23 off Tranquebar. Send 100 bales of brown cloth from Vizagapatam which could not be landed for lack of masula boats, but were put aboard the *Chesterfield* in ships' boats. His Majesty's ships *Sheerness* and *Basilisk* have sailed for the Cape to make provision for the Squadron's refreshment there on its way home. Send home William Holt, who is disordered in

his senses—the doctors say owing to the heat of the climate. Also send home (at his own request). Hyde Parker, late Ensign in the Company's service, whose behaviour caused the officers to refuse rolling with him and who was suspended on being found by a Court of Enquiry unworthy of holding a commission. 9,849 Pags. remitted on account of the estate of John Hinde by Charles Floyer.

Postscript: Draw bills on the Company for 1,850 Pags.

Appended are:—(1) register of diamonds amounting to 143,062 Pags.; (2) manifest of sundries shipped as presents; (3) list of the packet; and (4) sailing orders for the *Chesterfield*.

SEPARATE DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. OCTOBER 9, 1749. RECEIVED MAY 10, 1750. [*Factory Records, Fort St. David, Vol.* 10, *pp.* 511–514 (*India Office transcript.*)]

This goes by the *Chesterfield*. The general letter is not yet ready. All the Company's outward bound ships, except two, arrived safe, and one so late as July 30. Six ships have sailed for China and one for the Malabar coast to lade pepper. Other shipping news. 300 chests of bullion and rupees having been consigned to Bengal and 60 more to China, little is left for the investment. The Commissaries (Lawrence, Wynch and Westcott) left for Madras on August 7 to arrange for its restoration, followed by the English fleet. On August 21, the place was delivered up to Admiral Boscawen in a very bad condition. The walls and bastions were all undermined and stores removed except 104 unserviceable guns. It will take long before the place returns to its former prosperity; but it must become the head settlement again, and the sooner the better. As Fort St. David lacks warehouses, grain and stores have to be kept at Cuddalore under tiled roofs; and the bar which only opens for a part of the year allows the boats to make only one trip daily. On the other hand, Madras has spacious warehouses near the beach and boats can make 6 trips daily. The native merchants have a greater affection for that place and will not leave it to settle here. They refused to remain there under the French, but returned thither on its rendition. Boscawen agrees that Madras should be the Presidency. The death of the Nawab of Arcot involved the province in trouble, and the investment will suffer unless the army of Muzaffar Jang and Chunda Sahib should soon remove. At present they are near Pondichery where the French are endeavouring to prejudice them against us. As Nasir Jang is soon expected,

hopes that the usurpers will be obliged to retire. On June 12, with Boscawen's assistance and advice, we took Devikottai about 30 miles southward. It is a strong fort situated in a fertile country and has a river able to receive boats of 200 tons. Has been put to much extra expense for maintaining a table, owing to the number of ships here and absence of taverns. Should not have represented this matter had there been trade on this Coast since he became Governor. Recommends for appointment in the Company's service, St. Paul who has been Resident at Negapatam and Secretary to the Commissaries at Madras, also James Bourchier who is writing in the Secretary's office.

DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. OCTOBER 18, 1749. [*Public Despatches to England*, *Vol.* 17, *pp.* 58-61 (*Copy* 3 *pp.*)]

This despatch will be conveyed by Boscawen who will sail to-morrow. Regret having to report that in spite of the peace affairs are more embroiled than even during the War, owing to the artifices of Dupleix who so hates the English as to be unable to refrain from underhand acts of hostility. As soon as peace had freed Dupleix from the fear of attack, Chunda Sahib (formerly a General of the Nawab on whose defeat he had retired to the obscurity of the mountains leaving his family at Pondichery) began to raise men in order to attack Anwar-ud-din Khan. At first Dupleix pretended to have no concerns with him; but under pretext of discharging his sepoys sent them all to him. But as soon as affairs reached a crisis, Dupleix sent 900 of his best Europeans with a detachment of Artillery to join Chunda Sahib as auxiliaries. A battle then followed in which the French turned the scale. Anwar-ud-din was killed, and Chunda Sahib proclaimed himself Nawab on the strength of an illegal farman granted by Muzaffar Jang without Nasir Jang's consent. He at once granted to the French 42 villages of the Villiyanallur country lying round the Fort St. David's limits; moreover Covelong has been given to Dupleix; Porto Novo to Madame Dupleix; Alambarai to d'Auteuil, his brother-in-law; and St. Thomé to the Padre Antonio de la Purification, a relation of Madame Dupleix; so that now the French can stop goods and provisions from entering Fort St. David and Madras. An example of this has already happened. The Padre Antonio forbad under the severest penalties any provisions to be carried into Madras through or out of his dependencies, with other insults, until the Council requested Boscawen's assistance.

The latter at once made the Padre a prisoner and will carry him to England. Letters found in the Padre's house show that Dupleix advised him to carry matters with a fair face till Chunda Sahib's affairs were more settled. Chunda Sahib has been for some time at Pondichery, where a Train of Artillery is being prepared for some expedition 'which is to be wished from Mr. Dupleix's hint to the Padre may not be designed against us.' Cannot dwell longer on the situation; but Dupleix's conduct is not such as should be followed by a friendly nation, and if the Company thinks complaints should be made, it may make them at once. Boscawen has promised to give all further information and join with the Company in submitting complaints, if desired. Father René, an old resident of Madras, was suspected of acting treacherously towards the English; so Boscawen has been requested to carry him to Europe. Severini, the Superior of the Capuchins at Madras, was also thought to have been in the French interest, but, having been exonerated by the letters found with Father Antonio, has been allowed to reside at a little church just outside the Town. Francis Coyle de Barnewall and Quentin de LaMettrie having behaved ungenerously to the English, were arrested with a view to being sent to Europe, but, on their giving bail for £20,000, have been released and allowed to wait until the January shipping. The houses of those persons who forfeited English protection by continuing to reside at Madras under the French, have been confiscated, as also the Roman Catholic churches within the Madras limits. Although the Company had sent no directions about these matters, nevertheless such action was deemed necessary; hope it will be approved. As only 200 of the Independents were at first willing to enlist, have been forced to entertain as Captains, 4 Lieutenants, on condition that they brought their men with them. Have now 500 recruits and 4 companies more than were sanctioned in the recent Regulations; but even so there will not be men enough to complete all the Company's garrisons in India. Have enlisted about 30 good men of His Majesty's Train. Boscawen brings a plan of Devikottai.

SEPARATE DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. OCTOBER 30, 1749. RECEIVED MAY 10, 1750. [*Factory Records, Fort St. David, Vol.* 10, *pp.* 525–527 (*India Office transcript.*)]

Writing work was so heavy of late that the *Royal George* has had to be detained till now. Desire the Company to send out more

covenanted servants. Shipping news. On October 25, Muzaffar Jang and Chunda Sahib, reinforced with 1,000 French soldiers and a Train of Artillery, marched inland to oppose Nasir Jang. But as the usurpers need money to pay their troops, hopes they may soon disperse. The French risk much in sending their men so far away at this time of the year. Owing to these troubles, weavers have fled for safety to the seaports and little cloth can be obtained between November and January. Will do his best to get the weavers at work again as soon as the usurpers have gone. Have only 751 bales on hand. Encloses returns of the military on the Coast. Including 499 men enlisted from the King's troops and including the Bombay detachment, we have only 797 European privates, whereas it is credibly stated that there are 1,800 Europeans at Pondichery. Lawrence is about to return from Madras to reorganise the companies and reduce the topasses. No new works will be taken up without the Company's sanction. Is unable to send a plan of the outworks of Fort St. David as Delavaux has deserted and as Dumarchais, the only other person fit to take his place, went to Madras to declare what stores had been carried away since October and only returned here lately.

DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. NOVEMBER 2, 1749. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 17, *pp.* 61–97 (*Copy* 37 *pp.*)]

Now reply to despatches of May 10(?), June 17, July 21, and December 2 and 21, 1748, and January 4 and 27, and March 29, 1749. Have despatched 7 ships to China this year. In April the *Chesterfield* was despatched to Madagascar for coffrees, but returned in September with only 34. By Floyer's orders a new sloop, the *Cuddalore,* of 70 tons was built at Bombay, mainly to serve as an advice-ship to the Squadron ; she will now be sent to Sumatra where the *Louisa* is thought to have been lost. Other shipping news. Difficulties in disposing of the ships owing to a shortage of pepper at Tellicherry owing to heavy rains and in Sumatra owing to an epidemic of small-pox. Have sent the *Fort St. George* to Madagascar for more coffrees (under Henry Collins who is thought fit to manage a voyage of that sort) as a number of them would be very useful. Will do all that is possible to lighten the charges of demurrage, though the investments have been hindered in all parts.

Have taken every opportunity of sending treasure to Bengal, and have assisted that presidency to the utmost, though the Council there appear to think otherwise; for not content with the treasure sent, they have been drawing bills on Fort St. David (one for so large a sum as Rs. 50,000). These have been discharged, but for security's sake have been obliged to draw bills on Bengal for a like sum. Bombay was unable to supply sandalwood for the China market, but 300 candies of tin were bought here and sent. Most of the redwood provided for Bengal still lies at Durgarayapatnam, as the Europe shipping arrived too late to call for it; hope to be able to send it up in January. In order to help filling up the tonnage, the Bombay Council sent 231 bales of Surat piece-goods, 200 bales of cotton, and 355 maunds of Surat patchak; they also ordered all spare pepper, cardamums and Anjengo cloth to be sent round from the Malabar coast. However only some pepper has been received thence, with some timber that was greatly needed. Received no invoice of the *Dragon's* treasure, but it turned out at £58,716. Linga Chetti has agreed to take the broadcloth sent out this year at the usual rate of 30 % on the invoice. In the storm there was lost or destroyed 770 bags of rice aboard ship, with 3½ garse which was in an open banksall and about 60 tons of redwood. Some broadcloth and stores have been sent up to Madras for lack of godowns at Fort St. David. The Madeira on the *Tavistock* was overcarried to Bengal and has not yet been received. Send statement of quick stock as required.

The usual merchants have been concerned in the investments; but prices have had to be raised, the merchants agreeing to provide cloth as good as the musters of 1743-44 at the rates paid in that year. Linga Chetti and Kumarappa have again provided the fine goods; no reduction of price could be got on them. Have as yet received but 510 bales from the Northern factories, as the *Tryal* snow on which treasure was sent for Vizagapatam overshot that port; but it is still hoped that more bales will be received in January. Will send in January the chay goods demanded in the last list of the investment; they are being provided by Linga Chetti and Tirumangalam Kumarappa. Regarding the balances due from the Madras merchants, most of the debtors have returned to Madras, and the servants there will endeavour to recover their debts.

The condition of the country till recently was tranquil and the promise of trade good; but now the whole province is in confusion, owing to the death of Nizam-ul-mulk, who left a son, Nasir Jang,

and a grandson 'Mustapha Jing.' The latter at once claimed the succession; but, Nasir Jang not agreeing to this, he quitted Nasir Jang's army and collected a force of 32,000 men. He then met with Chunda Sahib, who had been lately released by the Marathas after 8 years' imprisonment, and had come with a small force to plunder in these parts in order to collect his ransom-money. These two joined to invade the Carnatic, where they defeated and slew Anwar-ud-din with the help of a body of French sent by Dupleix. The victors, having halted at Arcot to settle the province, proceeded to Pondichery, where Dupleix gave them a grand reception. They remained there 6 weeks; every day there was news of some new grant or privilege; and they laid their schemes for the completion of their enterprise. The English have never inclined to side with them or acknowledge their authority, knowing it to be usurped and certain to be overthrown. Are sure from the inveterate hatred of the French for the English that Dupleix has been instigating Chunda Sahib to attack us. He has already demanded the immediate restitution of St. Thomé which we were forced to occupy in order to prevent the French from building a fort and making a settlement there, which would have ruined the trade of Madras, and enabled the French constantly to observe all our transactions. Acted in this matter with Boscawen's advice and concurrence. Dupleix had procured a farman from Chunda Sahib for Father Antonio de la Purification to act as Havildar there; and the latter's papers (now in Boscawen's possession) prove what schemes were on foot against the English. Chunda Sahib has as yet entered on no hostilities against us, and if Dupleix stood neutral would probably undertake none. Have posted men in all the redoubts to prevent a surprise.

Muzaffar Jang and Chunda Sahib were reported to have left Pondichery September 25, since when they have been 'hovering about' in these parts with 1,400 French soldiers and some Artillery; hope they do not mean to attack Fort St. David; it is more likely that they intend to attack Trichinopoly, where is Muhammad Ali, Anwar-ud-din's son, who is scraping together all the men he can in order to recover the principality. If Chunda Sahib does not speedily take Trichinopoly with Muhammad Ali's 'inestimable treasure', Nasir Jang will come to the latter's assistance and drive Chunda Sahib out of the country. Nasir Jang is credibly reported to be already on the way hither. If he does not relieve us from the present yoke, the prospect of the future is dismal. Have been very cautious not to espouse either side; but in consideration of Muhammad Ali's former services, the justice of his cause, and his frequent

demands for assistance, when the sepoys were dismissed, 700 of them were ordered to Devikottai, with an officer and 30 men to keep them together, whence they were sent up to Trichinopoly. Have also sent thither a few small cannon and some cohorns. The purpose of this is to convince him of our goodwill, in the event of his recovering the province. Do not intend to do more. He has granted a farman for St. Thomé in consequence of which the English colours were hoisted there on October 11. The situation of affairs demanding the best information about the Country powers, and Haji Hadi having constantly supplied accurate news about Country affairs since the capture of Madras, without pay save for a present of 1,500 Rs., resolved to give him 500 Pags. and an allowance of 100 Pags. a month, so long as his intelligence was required. Expect this to be but for a few months.

The late Poligar of Madras applied for reappointment on its rendition. As Malraja had formerly received an eighth of the Poligar's fees and behaved with great credit during the French War as a Commander of peons, it was proposed to reappoint the old Poligar on condition of his allowing Malraja one-fourth of his fees. This offer was rudely rejected; so Malraja was made Poligar. On this the other pleaded that he had a cowle granting the office to him and his heirs for ever; but all such grants were undoubtedly determined by the capture of Madras.

In consideration of various advantages, a majority of the Board resolved to take by force of arms the town of Devikottai, 35 miles south of Fort St. David. It has a fine river close beside it, and its ground is fertile; when its bounds are properly settled, it should produce a revenue of 10,000 Pags. a year; even now it is let for 4,000 Pags. for 6 months. Expect the expenses of the expedition to be paid by the King of Tanjore, from whom 50,000 Rs. have already been received. A more particular account will be given by Floyer and Boscawen.

The works are still unfinished, partly owing to lack of materials and workmen, but mainly owing to the loss of our Engineer, Delavaux; have been reduced to appoint Hugh McLean (a bricklayer who came out in the military and reckoned sober and diligent) Overseer, and trust everything to him and the Lieutenant of the Train. The horn work is complete; the lunettes are half-finished. Fort. St. George will have to be totally re-fortified; all the walls and bastions are likely to fall in the next monsoon, are beyond repair and incapable of bearing cannon according to His Majesty's Engineers and the bricklayers. Have been obliged to disobey orders so

far as to complete a platform begun by the French and necessary to the security of the place; hope to send a plan and estimate of the work in January. Boscawen says he has an exact plan of the place and will show it to the Company. The French having left only 4 serviceable cannon at Madras, had to get as many from the Squadron as Boscawen would spare. The information given the Company about Wynch's house at Fort St. David is unjust; it is 2,170 yards from the covered way and at least 1,000 beyond Delavaux' pillars.

To encourage inhabitants to return to Madras, have taken off all duties for 6 months except those on goods imported from Europe. The villages have been let as follows:—Tiruvottiyur, etc., for 1,300 Pags. (old rent 1,250 Pags.); Egmore, etc., for 1,400 (old rent 1,250 Pags.); and Perambur, etc., for 700 (old rent 650 Pags.).

William Holt, suspended and sent home, has been replaced in Council by Thomas Cooke. Of the Madras servants, Goodwin, Fowke, Boddam, Powney, Greenhaugh and Jones have absolutely rejected the Company's offer of re-entertainment, presumably because they are senior to some now in Council. Francis Fordyce having complained of being assaulted by Robert Clive, an enquiry was made, which showed that Fordyce had given great provocation by aspersing Clive's character. As he has also abused Floyer and all the Councillors, is aggressive and meddling, and neglects his office especially in burying deceased soldiers and sailors, he has been suspended. Clive 'is generally esteemed a very quiet person and noways guilty of disturbances.' Have appointed in the place of Fordyce, Robert Palk, Boscawen's Chaplain and recommended by him.

Have sent Alexander Baird, who was Resident at Pulicat, to be Assistant at Ingeram. Thomas Cooke has been appointed Military Paymaster; Henry Cope was made Military Storekeeper; but, he dying before he had taken charge, John Pybus was appointed. Being in great need of writing assistants, have entertained James Bourchier and Peter St. Paul as monthly writers, and recommend them for admission as covenanted servants. Morse will go home by the January shipping; applied to him for information about Madras but he could give little. On the news of peace the Residents were recalled from the Dutch Settlements. Made Jones a present for the accurate information he supplied to Floyer during his 12 months' residence at Tranquebar. John Pybus has been given an allowance of 20 Pags. a month in consideration of the great labour involved in the post of Military Storekeeper. As Holt

had been suspended, Foss Westcott was appointed in his stead. Joint Commissary to receive Madras Lawrence and Wynch first visited Dupleix to settle the time and manner of the delivery of the place, after which, they proceeded to Madras where they carried out their orders.

In March, according to the Company's new Regulations, formed the Military into 7 companies (of which one Grenadier) commanded by :—Major Lawrence, and Captains Crompton, Southby, John Scrimsour, James Cope, John Dalton (Grenadier Company), and John Clarke. As Boscawen and Lawrence considered these companies barely sufficient to garrison Fort St. David and Cuddalore, it has been decided to continue the garrison at Vizagapatam as an extraordinary company under command of Captain Peter Love. The Artillery Company is still incomplete. As the pay allowed by the Company is rather less than that in the King's service, offered to allow each gunner 4*d.* a day extra, and to pay each matross 1*s.* a day ; but only got 26 men. Witherington and Learner have been detained in Bengal. All the Lieutenants entertained here were mariners who were promised the choice of returning to their old occupation or continuing in the Artillery. Since the peace, Burman and Petch have resigned, the first to command the *Brilliant* and the second the *Cuddalore* sloop ; Hugh Flinn died March 9 ; and Henry Collins has been sent supercargo on the *Fort St. George* to Madagascar, as her Captain could not be trusted with such an expedition. So there now remain only Thomas Savage and Mons. Dumarchais to manage the Company. The latter is a Protestant, recommended by Boscawen. For some unknown reason Delavaux deserted to Pondichery on May 24, and is said to have sailed for Manilla. He had a little before obtained leave to retire for a time under the plea of ill-health, and was throughout indulgently treated. It is thought that he deserted owing to his having killed one of His Majesty's subjects by an unhappy accident.

On Lawrence's strenuous advice, have entertained topasses at 10*d.* a day, in order to relieve Europeans of duty in the violent heat and in consideration of the smallness of the garrison. The new rates of pay under the Regulations were introduced from March 1 and well received. Have made various promotions in the Military. By the first attempt to enlist men out of the Independents, etc., only 56 were obtained ; and by the second only 80 more. Then, as the Squadron was about to sail, and as the inhabitants of Madras were clamorous for more protection, Major Lawrence and Foss Westcott who were in charge of Madras and had no time to refer the matter

to Fort St. David, agreed to promise commissions as Captain to 4 Lieutenants and to take one Lieutenant and one Ensign into each company; this secured 4 companies of men, and raised the total number recruited to 500. But none of these can be spared for Bengal or Bombay, in case of war either in Europe or with the Country powers. Desire further reinforcements, reasons for which will be shown in the private letters from Floyer and Lawrence. None of the mariners would enlist, as most have large 'off-reckonings' due in Europe. Resolved to dismiss all the Troop but 50 whom Boscawen wished to attend him to Madras; but the troubles in the country have since made it unwise to dismiss them. The recruits from the Independents have been clothed, being in great need of it; but as the off-reckonings for the remainder of the year will not be enough to cover the expense, it has been done on the Company's account. Captain Henry William Southby has resigned. Have paid Lieutenant Peter Eckman the pension appointed by the Company, but believe him undeserving of it, having heard from various persons of his misbehaviour* at the siege of Madras. As soon as Lawrence returns from Madras, the late Madras servants now in the Military shall be required to choose the service in which they will remain.

Edwards and Swinfen arrived last month by the *Severn*, and have been entertained together with Walsh and Sloper. Lack a Sub-Accountant; desired to appoint Sloper to that office, but he is at present too much engaged in extricating himself from 'many different services' to be able to undertake that employment. The present incumbent, John William Speck, seems able to do little more than take care of the papers and see that the assistants attend to their work.

Have appointed Richard Prince, Deputy Governor, and Richard Starke, John Smith, William Smyth King, and John Walsh of Council, at Madras. They will proceed thither shortly, as an investment may soon be begun there and it promises again to be a place of great trade. The fine goods, etc., made thereabouts must be bleached and sorted there, as conveniences are lacking at Fort St. David; and this was always better done at Madras. Advise that it be again made the Presidency; there is a lack of storehouses at Fort St. David, and the Company's goods, etc., have to be kept under tiled roofs at Cuddalore a mile away; also the river being much choked up and the bar open but a third of the year,

* For Eckman's vindication, see *Love's Vestiges* ii, *p.* 355.

the boats can make but one trip a day; moreover the merchants and conicoplies have to live at a distance from Fort St. David; whereas at Madras there are commodious warehouses close to the beach, the boats in good weather make 6 or 8 trips a day, the merchants live near the Fort, and the inhabitants of Madras will not remove to Fort St. David. Boscawen concurs in these views. Believe it will be necessary to suspend the customs there for a further period of 6 months, as the greater part of the first period will fall in the monsoon when little business can be done; shall not let out the monopolies for the present either. Have ordered that no 'black inhabitant' of Madras be molested for one year on account of any debt contracted before the loss of that place.

Robert Sloper appointed Searcher at Cuddalore. Andrew Munro reinstated as Surgeon at Madras. Have entertained James Wilson at Devikottai to supply the place of the Surgeon's mate who has been obliged by sickness to return here. Greatly distressed for want of writing assistants. Will check all gaming, but are not aware of its having been practised here for a long while past; the Company's information must be inaccurate.

Have not yet been able to get the Madras books required by the Company. Hope to do so in January. Send the Madras Consultations up to 'the 31 June' [*sic*] 1746, and the cash accounts from then to February 1747. Regarding the Squadron accounts, refer to a letter from Morse. Prince, Wynch and Westcott were appointed to examine into the Church and Charity stocks; they report that the debtors are unwilling to pay until legal authority has been obtained for giving due acquittances. Have discharged Coja Miguel's bond. Gold and pagodas being very scarce, and the value of rupees falling daily, have made rupees current at 350 per 100 Pags. at which rate payments and receipts have been made since May 1.

Sumatra affairs.

Received the news of peace with unspeakable satisfaction. The proclamation was made with all due form on September 25. 4 ships have reached Pondichery from Europe this season, 3 of which are said to have left most of their cargoes at Mauritius. Boscawen sailed for Europe October 19 in His Majesty's ship *Exeter* with the *York*, *Deptford*, *Chester*, *Harwich*, *Eltham*, *Deal Castle* and *Young Eagle*. There remain in India under Commodore Lisle the *Vigilant*, *Ruby*, *Tartar*, *Syren* and *Swallow* snow. The *Vigilant* sailed to the eastward October 21; the *Swallow* has gone to Bengal; and the rest to Bombay.

Supplement: Have received on the Company's account the guns salved from the *Winchelsea* and *Lincoln*. Have referred to the Company Captain Lindsay's demand for dieting sick military at the Cape. Allowed 8 Pags. a month each to the officers of the *Winchelsea* and *Lincoln* until they got passages for Europe. Samuel Worral, being detected in a correspondence with Dupleix and intending to desert, has been cashiered and is now sent home. Some of the debtors to the Church Stock now report that, should a vestry be re-established at Madras and regular church wardens appointed, they will pay what they owe. Will order this to be done if most of the debtors agree. Pero, Hockett and Merriman were entertained as Lieutenants of Artillery (being well recommended as duly qualified) just before the Squadron sailed. Cannot discover any other title of the Dutch to their factory at Devanampattanam than a verbal agreement said to have been made by Governor Yale. Have granted certificates for 13,961 Pags. Have laded on this ship 1,200 bales with pepper and redwood; cargo invoiced at 153,377 Pags.

Appended are:—(1) register of diamonds, etc., amounting to 4,904 Pags.; (2) list of the packet; and (3) sailing orders for the *Royal George*.

SEPARATE DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. FEBRUARY 7, 1750. RECEIVED MAY 8, 1751. [*Factory Records, Fort St. David, Vol.* 10, *pp.* 649–652 (*India Office transcript.*)]

This goes by the *Elizabeth*. Have now sent 4,200 bales of which 231 came from Bombay, and the remainder are Coast goods. Since March 1, the merchants have brought in 2,243 bales; would have brought in more could money have been advanced them. Considering the troubles, trust that the Company will be satisfied. Cannot judge what the new investment will be like, but it shall be as large as possible, and the Northern settlements shall be well supplied with money. Are sure that the Company will approve of the quality sent this season. It was impossible to bleach the whole for want of people and godowns. The latter were pulled down in the late troubles, and will not be rebuilt until the Company have decided where the Presidency is to be located. Shipping news. The *Lapwing* arrived on January 16, having lost 16 men and the rest of the crew being very ill with scurvy. After a few days' stay to refresh them, she sailed to Bengal on January 30, with all the 80 chests of her silver coined into rupees. Doubt if Bengal

will be able to lade her home this season. If she is returned here, she shall be sent home with bales in May. In December last, Major Lawrence returned from Madras. He will report on the military requirements both at Madras and here. Desire some writers, soldiers and one or two engineers. The last are needed to carry on the works regularly. At present there is only one, and as he is indisposed, it has been impossible to prepare the plan of the Fort St. David out-works to have been sent by the present ship. La Mettrie and Barnewall sailed on a French ship for Europe on February 4, intending to prosecute the Company and the Council here for expelling them from Madras. 3 French ships sailed for Europe from Pondichery. Have not been able to get details of her cargo, but are sure they have not more than two lakhs of Coast goods. They have lately advanced their merchants a lakh of rupees. Lisle has left Achin for the Nicobars to get provisions. He intended to proceed thence to the Straits of Malacca where he will be joined by the *Swallow* snow. His Majesty's ships *Syren*, *Ruby* and *Tartar* have reached Bombay. The *Restoration* grab was seized by Angria's fleet off Gheria in October last.

DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. FEBRUARY 12, 1750. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 17, *pp.* 99–143 (*Copy* 45 *pp.*)]

The *Lapwing* arrived on January 16, with the despatch of August 30. The *Elizabeth* returned on December 25, after wintering at Achin, where she left Lisle in the *Vigilant*. On December 26 the *Augusta* arrived unexpectedly from Malacca with news that all the China ships had passed that port. The *Lapwing's* crew was so sickly that she only sailed on January 29 with orders to call at Madras to land her private consignments there. All her silver was replaced by rupees. Have written to Bengal that in case she cannot be laded thence this season she should be sent to Fort St. David, whence she can be laded home in May. As the *Fort St. George* has been despatched to Madagascar, it seemed needless to send the *Swallow* there a second time; will forward her and her cargo to Sumatra on her arrival; and after her return she and another ship will be laded for England at Fort St. David in January next. In order to assist Bengal in getting rid of the great amount of tonnage with them, desired them in September last to send a ship to call at Vizagapatam for the bales ready there in

December. Hear that the *Prince William* was to do this and sail direct for Europe. Other ships' movements.

One of the chests of silver sent by the *Augusta* had been broken open by one of the crew and was 47 oz. short. The Captain had the delinquent in custody and desired him to be tried ashore ; but it was thought that the Charter would not authorise this. Lead has sold well lately ; in January 300 candies were sold at 12 Pags. 19½ fns. per candy. Have continued aboard this ship, a large quantity of saltpetre put on her in Bengal, as the *Royal George* and *Chesterfield* carry none, and it is needed to complete her tonnage.

Have been fortunate in being able to provide so many bales of cloth in spite of the revolution in the country, which is still fomented by the French. What is now sent is of better quality than any sent home for some time and equally cheap. As Nasir Jang is daily expected at Arcot, and is likely to remain for some time, do not expect to make so large an investment this year, but hope to make this good in part by sending considerable supplies to the Northern factories. The Madras merchants who came here to settle their accounts have contracted to deliver by February 20 about 230 bales at an abatement in the price formerly allowed by the President, etc., at Madras. The succatoons ordered shall be set about at once. Have the same reasons as last year for sending much brown cloth. The bales provided in the last season are :— at Fort St. David 2,243 ; at Vizagapatam 300 sent to Fort St. David and 250 sent to Bengal ; at Ingeram 699 ; chay goods 17.

The state of the province is rather worse than when the *Royal George* sailed. Muzaffar Jang and Chunda Sahib marched inland in the beginning of November. They first attacked Udaiyarpalaiyam where they expected to get a large sum without delay ; but they were detained with daily skirmishes for a whole month and at last got 3 lakhs of rupees. Meanwhile several letters demanding assistance were received from Muhammad Ali ; and it was resolved to send Captain Cope with a company of Europeans and topasses and Lieutenant Nost with a few of the Train. Have also spared several cannon which were not wanted and some warlike stores, for which Muhammad Ali is to pay.

On hearing of the assistance rendered by the English to Muhammad Ali, Muzaffar Jang and Chunda Sahib abandoned their plan of immediately attacking Trichinopoly and moved against Tanjore, which country they have nearly ruined. About 6 weeks ago they laid siege to the city which was bravely defended and some successful sallies were made. However, seeing the enemy

resolutely pushing the siege, the King has now made terms, agreeing to pay 60 lakhs of rupees in instalments. However it is thought that not more than 6 or 7 lakhs have actually been paid, slowly and in small sums, for which reason the siege has been renewed and the French, having fetched ordnance from Karikal, are now playing night and day on the place with 3 cannon and 3 mortars. It is feared the place will fall unless the troops Nasir Jang is sending to its relief arrive soon. If the enemy take it, it is believed they will defend it against Nasir Jang; but if they are forced to raise the siege, Chunda Sahib is expected to retire to Pondichery and Muzaffar Jang to Gingee. Both Muhammad Ali and Nasir Jang have acknowledged the service done them by the English in sending assistance to Trichinopoly. There is daily news of Nasir Jang's advance with 100,000 horse and a large Train of Artillery; some of his troops are said to have already entered the Carnatic, and Sampati Rao (who was Diwan to Anwar-ud-din) is daily expected at Arcot.

Have prepared a present for Nasir Jang, including the handsome tent which he asked for when Mutyalu was with him; the whole will amount to 10,000 Pags. Lawrence and Westcott have been selected as ambassadors, with Captain Dalton to attend upon them. Their instructions will be prepared as soon as the *Elizabeth* has been despatched. Haji Hadi has been ordered to accompany them. Expect to obtain grants for several villages near Madras and especially a confirmation of Muhammad Ali's grant of St. Thomé. This will involve presents for Nasir Jang and his chief people, according to eastern ways, but no more will be given than is absolutely necessary. Still have quiet possession of St. Thomé and the inhabitants are content. The King of Tanjore has been prevented by Chunda Sahib's attack from paying the 50,000 Rs. still due under the Devikottai agreement. Have made an allowance of 300 Rs. a month to Shahji, the ex-King of Tanjore, residing in Cuddalore, in order to engage him not to join Chunda Sahib; this will be continued no longer than is necessary. Malraja, who was made Poligar of Madras, has been dismissed for extorting money from the inhabitants by barbarous methods; and the old Poligar, having made due submission, has been reinstated.

Have almost completed two cranes for unloading heavy goods, one at 'the Back Gate of the Fort' and the other at Cuddalore, each with a small warf projecting into the river. They will cost about 1,440 Pags. The new rampart at the north-east end of Cuddalore, built too flimsily by Delavaux in spite of warnings, fell down in the

heavy rains of last November; but being absolutely necessary, has been rebuilt substantially. Lawrence advised that the parapet of the south curtain at Cuddalore was too high, and that the sand-heaps against the walls would facilitate an attack ; the first will be lowered and the second cleared away. Have allowed Captain John Crompton 300 Pags. for the use of his house for 2 years to accommodate the Captains of His Majesty's Squadron. Must erect a shed to preserve gun carriages, etc., from exposure to the weather. Have let the paddy fields and salt pans at Madras at an increased rent of 40 Pags. a year, and the Company's Old Garden there at the usual rent. The cost of the horn-work and other fortifications erected at Fort St. David will greatly exceed the estimate originally sent home, owing to Delavaux' having continued them on a plan different from that prepared by Jones. The latter intended the Fort guns to play over the horn-work, but Delavaux has carried it to an equal height. Moreover the glacis has been much more expensive than was expected. The horn-work is finished except for laying some gun platforms and completing 'the Roman ways.' Are now building a bridge over the new channel that was cut for the Devanampattanam river, west of the Fort.

Prince set out for Madras November 25 and Lawrence returned December 7. John William Speck died November 8. Are in great need of covenanted servants. Robert Clive, desiring to revert to the civil branch, has been appointed Steward ; Edmund Maskelyne desires to remain in the Military, and his services merit the Company's favour; cannot tell Philip Bulkeley's wishes as he is at Trichinopoly. Have granted a pension of 5 Pags. to Mrs. Elizabeth Woodward, widow of a former councillor here. Lawrence promised Merriman, Hockett and Pero (who were in His Majesty's Train) that they should receive pay equal to that of Ensign if they would join the Company's Train, as he knew the Company was anxious to recruit trained Artillery officers ; and Council have confirmed this, although the rate laid down by the Company for Artillery officers is less than Ensign's pay and less than that of the King's service. Regarding the Troop of horse, have carried out the Company's orders to the bounds of prudence. Must retain 30 troopers, in case Dupleix should instigate Chunda Sahib to attack any of our out-villages, which could not be promptly protected by a body of foot. In one of his letters to Padre Antonio, Dupleix pointed out that the English could no longer protect their inhabitants, apparently meaning that owing to the destruction of the Black Town the merchants would have to reside in the out-villages and so be exposed to raids. The

rest of the Troop have been disposed of ; its total cost by death, the enemy and desertion has been 14,022 Pags. Called on the Commissaries for receiving Madras to submit a statement of their expenses on that account, but they have preferred to rely on the Company's known generosity for a suitable recompense. On Lawrence's recommendation Robert Talbot and John Holdman have been appointed Ensigns. Morse recently informed the Council that his affairs were still in such a position that his going home now would seriously injure himself and those concerned with him ; have agreed to his deferring his departure till September, being convinced of the truth of what he says. Edward Harris (late of Council at Madras), his wife, and William Henry Southby's daughter go home by this ship. William Belsches, Surgeon, intending to go home in September, has been allowed to resign, and James Wilson appointed in his stead. John Moore, who was Chief Carpenter with His Majesty's Train and is recommended as competent to assist an Engineer and well versed in Artillery matters, has been entertained as Carpenter at Madras, on terms not more than commensurate with his probable services.

Coja Gregorio has refused to accept the bills drawn on him by Coja Marut Markar. Have not yet received the Ganjam or Vizagapatam books, for which those factories will be duly reprimanded. Morse reports that he sent home by Boscawen a cash account showing how the money borrowed on bonds at Madras was expended ; have found no papers that throw any light on this affair. Forward the accounts of the Madras merchants for the Company's consideration ; consider that they have improperly credited themselves for various articles. Have not yet been able to prepare the Madras General Books ending April 1746. Most of the Company's wares and stores are sold by retail so that the form sent out for account sale is inapplicable ; it shall however be used for all goods sold at outcry.

When the peons and sepoys were discharged, there were numerous small advances standing against them amounting to 950 Pags. ; this has been written off as a bad debt. Regret that the long passage of the *Porto Bello* inconvenienced the Company by delaying the arrival of the annual books and papers. Those would have been perfectly regular had Council had any Madras papers to serve as models ; trust that any errors will not be imputed to negligence or inattention.

Regret that the Council lacked power authoritatively to decide the dispute between Jones and Moses ; consider that Jones by

refusing the offers of accommodation and insisting on a trial in England aimed at ruining his opponent, by compelling him to leave his concerns in India. There is also money in the Company's cash claimed by the creditors of the late Captain Edward Jacobs; but there is no authority to deal with it.

On reconsideration of La Mettrie's and Barnewall's deportation to England, it was observed that they had been arrested on Boscawen's request, that he alone had proofs of his accusations against them, and that, in case of his death or the disappearance of the proofs, the Company might be liable for damages if they were compulsorily sent to England. Accordingly when they demanded the reason of their arrest, no answer was given; but Mrs. Madeiros' bond for their appearance was restored to her; and it was decided to expel them from the Company's Bounds and confiscate their houses; the last could not be carried out as their houses were mortgaged. They have now sailed for Europe in a French ship, declaring that they will seek redress in Europe. Among La Mettrie's claims is one for 32,000 Pags. as his wife's fortune, which it is well known he paid away a few months after receiving it to his creditors in China. The other sums he pretends to claim may have been acquired by plundering at Madras; but for years he has lived entirely on the bounty of his wife's family; and his credit has been low ever since he appropriated to his own use a large sum of the French Company's money, part of which Dupleix now claims on the Company's account. Barnewall boasts that the only accusation against him is his having acted as Quartermaster for La Bourdonnais at Madras. Enclose however affidavits* to prove that he corresponded with the French while the War was in progress. It was intended to suppress this charge against him, as it may prove a hanging matter, but he seems disposed to push matters to extremities, instigated by Dupleix, and (it is believed) by Jones who has been shunned by the English since his quarrel with Moses. Barnewall himself seems to have a poor opinion of his case, for he fled from Madras in disguise instead of coming to Fort St. David to take passage by the *Elizabeth* as had been arranged.

The extraordinary conduct of the French has produced 'a most troublesome correspondence with them', although the English did their best to avoid it by concise answers to the French complaints and protests about alleged breaches of the Treaty.

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* The list of the packet appended to this despatch shows an item 'Rodolf d'Gingen and Andrew Munro's affidavit relating to Mr. Barnewall.'

Then arose La Mettrie's affair and a claim was made on account of his debt to the French Company. Then 2 English sailors, wandering outside the Bounds, were seized by the French; and, when Floyer had them rescued by a party of soldiers, the French complained we had insulted their flag because the incident happened in a village 3 miles out where they had chosen to hoist it and claim the village in consequence. It is remarkable that they make the English responsible for La Mettrie's debt and yet let him go to Europe on one of their own ships.

It is too evident that the French aim at excluding the English first from the trade of the Coromandel coast, and then from that of all India. Hope this may be averted with the help of Nasir Jang, whose friendship will be carefully cultivated; but wish that the Company had put Fort St. David more in a position to help itself. Although Boscawen remonstrated with the Government of Batavia about their insults to the British flag and the Company's pass, it has had no effect, for they stopped in the Straits of Malacca a country ship called the *Arcot*, bound from Fort St. David to Manilla. Have certain information that Batavia ordered her voyage to be prevented altogether, as they have a ship bound for Manilla and hope to monopolise that trade. But these orders could not be carried out as we happened to have 3 of our China ships at Malacca. Shall write to Negapatam about this and also inform Commodore Lisle.

According to the best information obtainable, 2 ships have lately reached Pondichery from France with treasure; one sailed 'sometime since.' The *Prince* which came out last year has just sailed. The *Favorite*, which went to Manilla last year, has gone to fetch pepper from Mahé, and (it is said), will go to Manilla again this year. The *Anson* has gone to Mocha, and the *Devanampattanam* (from Bengal) to Mauritius. The French investment has amounted to 2 lakhs of rupees, and they have lately advanced their merchants a lakh.

When the *Brilliant* was sent to Achin on a secret cruize in 1747, Griffin ordered the Chief Mate, Thomas Webster, to remain there and forward any intelligence he might receive; he has now returned, and his expenses (2,008 Rs.) have been paid him.

A Vestry has been held at Madras, and Church-Wardens appointed to receive the debts due to the Church Stock; several have been paid and several bonds (not yet due) renewed. A Treasurer and Trustees have also been elected to collect and manage the Charity Stock. Have expelled a Roman Catholic priest who resided at Cuddalore and given his church to Kiernander of the

Society for promoting Christian Knowledge. Have also given the Roman Catholic Church at Vepery, west of Madras, to the same mission until the Company's pleasure is known. The latter Church is claimed by Coja Petrus Uscan, but it is believed that he had previously made it over to the Capuchins. Have forbidden houses in the White Town at Madras to be sold to any but European Protestants. Thomas Eyre, late of Council and Paymaster at Madras, has sent in his accounts for August-October 1746, and applied for payment of the balance due to him. Send on this ship 6 French deserters detected in an attempt to desert again, and believed to have been sent to seduce the English garrison to desert, as many have done lately; also a private incapacitated by a wound in the head. Have protested against the Captain of the *Elizabeth* as she cannot take in her full tonnage by over 38 tons. Forward two petitions from Sunku Rama to the Company. The *Elizabeth's* cargo is invoiced at 159,015 Pags. Diamonds registered by her, 22,670 Pags. Balance in Cash, 14,329 Pags. Bills drawn on the Company for 4,583 Pags.

Appended are :—(1) register of diamonds; (2) manifest of sundries shipped as presents; (3) sailing orders for the *Elizabeth*; (4) protest against the Captain of the *Elizabeth*; and (5) list of the packet.

SEPARATE [?] DESPATCH FROM CHARLES FLOYER, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. FEBRUARY 12, 1750. RECEIVED MAY 8, 1751. [*Factory Records, Fort St. David, Vol.* 10, *pp.* 589–590 (*India Office transcript.*)]

Have been obliged to renew the commission to Major Lawrence for holding general courts-martial, notwithstanding the Company's orders to the contrary in its despatch of January 27, 1749. Send copy of his letter to explain the Council's motives. A compliance with the orders would have endangered the Company's settlement with the lives and fortunes of all their servants.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO CHARLES FLOYER, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. AUGUST 30, 1749. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 53, *pp.* 21–28 (*Original* 8 *pp.*)]

Acknowledge the receipt of the despatch, dated January 16, 1749, with Floyer's letter to the Secret Committee. Are now despatching the *Lapwing* with 80 chests of treasure for Bengal. She is ordered to put into Fort St. David if she can reach it before the end of January in which case her treasure is to be coined at once and

forwarded to Bengal, so that she may be returned the same season with a cargo of fine goods. No part of the treasure is on any account to be detained at Fort St. David for the previous diversion of large sums intended for Bengal has 'most sensibly distressed us'. Positive orders to take all means to send treasure to Bengal; if there should be a stock of ready-coined rupees, they should be sent instead of the *Lapwing's* treasure. Return lascars who came to Europe on the *Lapwing* and *Swallow*; the surgeon is to be paid 10*s.* a head for all landed at Fort St. David; but this allowance is never to be paid on lascars navigating any but the Company's own ships. Have sent the *Swallow* to procure 250 slaves at Madagascar for Sumatra; they will be landed at Fort St. David to be forwarded thence. As soon as the *Swallow* is refitted and the crew refreshed, she will return to Madagascar for a second cargo of slaves intended for Fort St. David, where those fit for it are to be trained in the military exercise. The agents (the Captain and Chief Mate of the *Swallow*) are to be paid £1 for every slave delivered and the surgeons 5*s.*

The shippers of coral and foreign silver to Fort St. David have agreed that if the *Lapwing* goes direct to Bengal, their consignments may be forwarded by any of the Company's ships at their own risk but without extra charge. Three or more ships are fitting out at Leghorn for the East Indies; as many English officers and sailors are likely to be engaged in that service, have petitioned His Majesty to cause his Commanders to seize all such according to the statutes; Council should apply to the King's officers in the East to do the same, should the ships appear there. Have advanced £500 to Coja Marut Marcar, an Armenian of Bengal, who has come to Europe to procure restitution of a ship of his seized by the Portuguese at Calicut in 1747, though it had an English pass which however was said to be irregular. The English Minister has been ordered to support his claim. Send his bills of exchange on Michael Gregory, merchant of Fort St. David, in payment of the advance; and send a proper form of pass to be given to all ships entitled to the English protection. In future bills are to be drawn on the Company at 7*s.* 8*d.* per pagoda for Covenanted servants and those entitled to the higher rate, and at 7*s.* 4*d.* for all others. As large a quantity of goods as possible should be provided for the investment, especially fine muslins which have been in demand since the prohibition of cam[bays ?]; a few bales of succatooms such as were formerly sent from Madras are also wanted. Will send plentiful supplies early by the China ships. Complain of the lack

of books from the subordinate factories. Dismiss Captain Delavaux for his unsatisfactory behaviour. A General Court held on June 21 could come to no resolution about the Madras bonds for lack of information; repeat previous orders on this subject. Require every season an exact account of the sales of the Company's goods. Require annual lists of all Covenanted military and other servants showing their rank, yearly salary and allowances. The French Capuchins have no right to present priests to the 'Romish Church' at Madras; the Governor, etc., alone make the appointment. Complain of the failure to send an account of the quick stock by each ship; it must show on the one side cash and bullion, goods in warehouse either for Europe or for sale, etc., and all good debts, and on the other debts owed by and loans made to the Company, and goods delivered by the merchants, but not paid for. The dead stock (forts, buildings, etc.) has no place in this account. If the subordinate factories fail to send their accounts in time, a careful estimate must be made instead, but they must be informed that their negligence will be resented.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO CHARLES FLOYER, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. NOVEMBER 3, 1749. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 53, *pp.* 29–36 (*Copy* 8 *pp.*)]

Ships' arrivals. This goes by the *Portfield* bound for Fort St. David and Benjar-massin. Send part of the *Swallow's* Madagascar cargo that she could not take in. The *Portfield* is to be despatched within 10 days of her arrival. She goes to Benjar not only to get a lading of pepper for China, but also in order to assert the English right to a free trade there, which has been obstructed lately by Dutch chicanery. All useful intelligence is to be communicated to her supercargoes, and they are to be supplied with a good Malay interpreter. No treasure consigned to Fort St. David by this or any other vessel is to be kept except what is absolutely needed there; all the rest is to be coined and sent to Bengal. The 4 China ships will shortly follow; it will be well if they can be laded with goods suitable for China without endangering their passage. Do not purpose on this occasion to comment on the despatches received this season; but observe that most of them are short, that opportunities of writing were neglected, and that the books and papers of consequence were detained until the departure of the last ship. All this has a great appearance of negligence. So also has the despatch of the *Delawar* to Benjar without instructions, the voyage being critical and the Captain deprived of his supercargoes.

Have appointed Engineer-General of all the Settlements in India, Benjamin Robins, 'a gentleman eminently skilled in his profession,' who will sail with several assistants by one of the first ships. All buildings are to be suspended at Fort St. David until his arrival or further orders. A Council of five is to be appointed to manage affairs at Madras, with Richard Prince as Chief and Joseph Fowke as Second; the Council is to be assisted by a suitable number of covenanted servants; and half the Company's troops are to be garrisoned there under command of a proper officer. In order to encourage the inhabitants to return, they are to be assured of enjoying the full rights and privileges which they had before Madras was captured and that the Company will protect them to be utmost of its power. No buildings are to be raised or restored there until Robins' arrival.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO CHARLES FLOYER, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. DECEMBER 8, 1749. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 53, *pp.* 37-53 (*Original* 17 *pp.*)]

Reply to despatches of January 16 and February 22. Now send by the 4 China ships a large quantity of bullion, merchandise and stores. The ships to be despatched as soon as possible, and the Company will be gratified if they can be laded with goods for China without endangering their passage; any goods put aboard will be paid for by the supercargoes out of the silver consigned to them. The *London*, *Kent*, *Lynn* and *Norfolk* will sail for the Coast and Bay early next month. All this season's ships are kintledged with iron; so there is no need to lade any saltpetre on them unless there should be a lack of other goods. As many cargoes to be sent home as possible, despatching first those ships that have been longest in India. Boscawen was desired on his leaving England to dismiss as early as possible the Company's ships he did not absolutely need; are persuaded that if matters had been properly represented to him, he would have dismissed at least 2 more than he did after raising the siege of Pondichery, and these extra ships could have been sent home with pepper from Malabar. The *Porto Bello* had great difficulty in getting round the Cape because she was detained a month at Fort St. David, waiting for books and papers which might as well have been sent by the *Lapwing*. The *Dolphin* which has not been heard of since her despatch in March 1748, is believed to have been lost at sea. The captures made by His Majesty's ship *Medway's Prize* and the Company's ships *Benjamin*

and *Bombay Castle*, have caused difficulties in Bengal, the Government demanding their restoration as belonging to Moghal subjects. As regards the Company's ships at least, the Fort St. David Council should have insisted on the deposit of the prize-money in the Company's Treasury till the validity of the prizes had been decided in England. The rates paid to ships' Captains for the maintenance of soldiers on board (in one case 1*s.* 6*d.* *per diem* and in others 8 fanams for privates and 12 for officers) seem excessive; no effort was made to reduce the Captains' demands; nor is it clear whether the men were King's or Company's troops; if the former, the payments should have been certified, so as to permit a recovery from Government. Care to be taken about damaged goods and short deliveries out of the ships. Details of the method of weighing copper, etc., in England. Ships' Captains must pay for gunny-bags to put ballast in.

Send a large quantity of bullion intended solely for Bengal; it is to be coined and forwarded with all despatch. Repeat complaints about the detention of silver for Bengal. Linga Chetti proves right in declaring that the dollars sent out were 4 *dwt.* instead of 2½ worse than standard; but the rupees coined in February 1749 were only 2½ *dwt.* instead of 4½ *dwt.* better than standard. The due fineness of the coinage must be strictly maintained. In future Fort St. David and Sumatra are to be supplied with gunpowder from Bombay, where very good powder is made. Cancel previous orders for the purchase of tea. When the contract with the merchants was made at Fort St. David, it was agreed to give them broadcloth at 30% on the invoice; but on their desiring to be excused taking it, it was sold to Linga Chetti at the same rate. This method was only permitted at Madras in order to assist merchants heavily indebted to the Company to pay off their debts. At Fort William and Bombay public sales have proved much more advantageous. In future all goods sent out are to be put up at outcry in reasonable lots—broadcloth not more than 4 bales, perpetuanos not more than 3 bales, and other goods not above the invoice-value of £200—at an up-set price of 15% on the invoice; purchasers are to be allowed 12 months in which to clear the goods, with a discount of 9% should they be cleared within 6 months and of 3% if cleared within 12 months; no goods to be issued without payment. As regards the short deliveries of grain from Bengal, there may have been carelessness in shipping grain full of dust, but fear that there was also carelessness in landing it at Fort St. David.

The Company has been greatly affected by the small returns made for the great sums of money spent at Fort St. David, especially as this has affected the Bengal investment. Send a list of the goods required; these must be provided at the cheapest possible rates. The Consultations do not show the names of merchants who contracted to deliver goods in 1748, nor does the contract seem to have specified the quantity or time of delivery. Later on the merchants were allowed an increase of 2 Pags. a corge—apparently without due consideration or enquiry. In future written tenders are to be called for and entered in the Consultations with reasons assigned for acceptance or rejection; and contracting merchants must give security for performance of their contract. Complain that Floyer's letter to the Secret Committee of February 20 [*Wanting*], makes no mention of the French ship lately arrived from Pondichery with a rich cargo or of another ship now expected thence.

Complain of the lavishness of the presents to Nasir Jang, etc., amounting to 20,518 Pags.; this was far more than commensurate with any advantages that could have been expected from the unreliable Indian powers; more frugality and caution must be displayed. Hope the present tranquillity of the country will permit the increase of the investment. Require a full account of the extortion of money from Andrews at Ganjam in 1746. Desire all farmans, grants, etc., at Madras to be collected, translated, and fair-copied into a book which is to be sent home with all speed.

Benjamin Robins, etc., sail on the *Grantham*. Send full instructions regarding fortifications in a separate despatch of this day. When all allowances have been made, the sums spent (and that injudiciously) on the works at Fort St. David are unreasonable. When the Bound-renter applied for a renewal of his lease, it was granted without considering the applications which Floyer stated he had received; in future all forms, licenses, etc., are to be sold at public outcry. Object to the advance made to Peter Dencker of 500 Pags. to enable him to set up a butcher's shop in Cuddalore with the monopoly of supplying the soldiers at prices much higher than those at which he supplied the Madras garrison in 1746; a free and open market is to be encouraged, and Dencker's loan recovered. The slaves from Madagascar are to be employed on the works as well as trained up in the military.

Are highly displeased with Floyer for disobeying the Secret Committee's express orders to collect and send home proofs of Peyton's alleged misconduct; he allowed Morse to retain the papers and

send home by Monson copies, which are useless as evidence. If Morse has not already sailed, he is to come home by the first ship. Will demand of Harrison the 2,000 Pags. he owes to the Church Stock. Order Lennox home by the first ship and complain of his being allowed to remain in India in defiance of former orders. The Regulations for the Military and Artillery are not to be altered in respect of pay or the establishment of officers without express permission. Care to be taken to prevent the false musters which are believed to have been practised before Lawrence's arrival. Cannot admit the reasons assigned for maintaining the Troop of horse; it is to be broke and the accoutrements, etc., sold to reimburse in part the extravagant expense of raising and maintaining it. In future muster rolls must be sent home annually in duplicate with a certified list of men dead, run or discharged. Will consider Captain James Cope's services as Judge-Advocate when properly certified from Fort St. David. Desire a report from Lawrence on the ability and conduct of the various officers.

Complain of collusive disregard of the Company's orders about the Madras claims in allowing Coja Shawmier to set off Madras bonds against the bond he gave to the President, etc., of Bombay, and in making advances of 500 Pags. to Peter Dencker and 1,200 to John Gray. Very little trouble was taken about the Madras claims; they were simply noted in Consultation without enquiry. Why did Morse put in his claim for 40,000 Pags. only on February 18, 1749, when public notice had been given long before? The full report already required must be made. Complain of the Steward's being allowed to have in hand so large a balance as 21,965 Pags. paid in on November 30, 1748. The *True Briton* should not have been despatched without a letter to the Company. Complain of carelessness in drawing bills on the Company and in making up the lists of stores in hand, for which purpose a set form is now prescribed.

Disallow the pensions granted to the widows Graham and Smith and to Captain de Morgan; if their necessities are so great, they should be sent home, where the Company will consider their claims. No pensions may be granted without the Company's permission. When Holt was in charge of the Mint, he held no other post and was not entitled to any extra allowance. Approve the application to Boscawen for the repayment of the sums expended on the seige of Pondichery; but he should also have been requested to authenticate the accounts, which would have facilitated the Company's application to Government. All papers

relating to the unadjusted accounts of the Squadron when under Barnett and Peyton must be collected and sent home, as, owing to Peyton's death, difficulties are expected in their settlement.

Sumatra affairs.

Supplement: The Navy Victualling Commissioners desire that, if Commodore Lisle shall have left India before the arrival of the provisions now sent, the provisions be sold and the produce remitted to Europe in Company's bills. Have had great difficulty over Belsches' accounts; £285 has been struck off and Belsches must refund this sum and give security to make good any future deductions.

SEPARATE [?] DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO CHARLES FLOYER, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. DECEMBER 8, 1749. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 53, *pp.* 55-65 (*Original* 11 *pp.*)]

Having resolved to make the Company's settlements as secure as possible against the attacks of European or Indian enemies, have appointed Benjamin Robins, Engineer-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Artillery. He is to receive all support and assistance, and, where his instructions appear ambiguous, his interpretation of them is to be accepted. His instructions are as follows:—

He is to proceed first to Fort St. David, then to Fort St. George, Calcutta and Bombay, calling at St. Helena on his way back from India, and if possible at the subordinate settlements in India (especially Vizagapatam) on his way from one Presidency to another; to make an exact plan of the present works at each place and form a scheme for their improvement, to be sent home with an estimate of the expense, etc.; to have access to all the Company's records bearing on the matter; to command the Artillery wherever he may be, form a plan for their exercise, and see them trained; to examine all stores in the magazines, send home inventories of them, and report how far the orders of June 17, 1748, have been carried out; to suspend or dismiss any officer or private of Artillery unfit for service, reporting the reasons to the Company; in case of an attack on any settlement, to consider whether it is necessary to go thither or not, but, wherever he is, he is to be present and vote at all Consultations where military affairs are discussed; except at Calcutta, to avoid entering on 'any great expensive work' till the Company's orders have been received, but where repairs or alterations are absolutely and urgently necessary, they may be

undertaken at once (the Company's warehouses and magazines must be situated in secure places within the forts); to appoint inspectors (if needed) at each working place to muster the coolies and certify the bills (which must be countersigned by Robins himself) with which the Paymaster's account is to be examined every month; if Robins is dissatisfied with the Paymaster's conduct, he may require his dismissal; and he may remove from his post any other person employed on the works; instructions regarding the defences of Calcutta; John Barker, Nathaniel Carrington, Charles O'Hara, Sampson Morrice, Charles Knapton, and Philip Glass appointed Assistants, to be employed as Robins directs; he is to draw £20 a month for their diet (with a proportionate abatement should any die or be dismissed); they are to be paid as salary, Barker £40 and the others £20 each *per annum*, till Robins returns to Europe, when Barker is to be entertained as Factor with rank from his arrival in India and the others as writers with similar standing; any other of the Company's servants may be employed if Robins thinks fit, provided that if they are above the rank of writer, they agree to such employment; they shall not lose pay, rank or other advantages by so doing; should Robins leave a settlement before the new works are completed, he may leave one or more of his Assistants to complete them; they are to maintain regular journals, showing the daily progress, men employed, payments made, and any complaints that they may have to make to Council about the conduct of the works, which journals are to be forwarded to the Company through Robins; and they may depend on being rewarded in proportion to their good conduct; to secure that works be completed according to the plan on which they may be begun, Robins is to prepare large-scale plans, or if necessary large models, with detailed explanations; he is to correspond directly with the Company, observe the latitude and longitude of the places he visits, note the variation of the compass, and pursue any other enquiries for the inprovement of Geography, Navigation, or other branch of useful knowledge, etc. Robins is to receive the same military and other honours as the Third in Council. All the Company's servants are required to facilitate his work; he is under covenants to remain in India till the sailing of the last ship for Europe from the place where he may be in the months of January—March, 1754, or, in case he loses his passage outwards, 1755; he is to receive for his own and his servants' diet £10 a month, which with the other allowances is to be paid at *7s. 8d.* per pagoda; he is to be paid his travelling expenses on the

Company's service, and those of his Assistants; and the charges of putting his schemes into execution are to be entered under a special head; he is to be provided with quarters in the Fort or elsewhere. Thomas Heath, who was sent out to serve under Delevaux, and reported incapable of Engineer's work, is to be tried by Robins; and, if really incapable, sent home. Robert Barrowcliffe (smith) and Israel Selfe (carpenter) sent out with Robins, to serve for 5 years from their arrival at £60 a year.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JANUARY 12, 1750. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 53, *pp.* 67–73 (*Original 7 pp.*)]

This goes by the *Norfolk* which will bring 300 pipes of Madeira, half of which is for Fort St. David; her officers are allowed 20 pipes on their privilege. The *Kent, London,* and *Lynn* are directed to call at Fort St. David on their way to Bengal to land their bullion and take in an equal amount of rupees which should be available from the bullion landed by the China ships. Usual orders to send all spare silver to Bengal. All the ships are again sent out kintledged with iron which must be deducted from the charterparty tonnage and thus will facilitate sending more ships home. Saltpetre to be put on board only if needed to complete the charterparty tonnage. Arrangements to be made with the other Presidencies to send home all shipping in the season of their arrival. If any ship is detained, it should be the *London* and she should be employed so as to reimburse at least the cost of demurrage. Desire one or two ships to be despatched if possible so as to arrive in June with a large proportion of fine Coast goods to be included in the September sale.

Direct an exact list of all books and papers received from the French at Madras to be compiled and sent home. Have appointed Joseph Cooper a writer. Have allowed the following to reside in India:—Thomas Whitlatch, John Brohier and Jacob Dawson as mariners; John Page as a surgeon; and Joseph Lowe (now in Bengal) as free merchant. The reported prevalence of gaming having proved true, and Floyer and other senior servants having thus occupied almost their whole time to the general disorganisation of the Company's affairs, dismiss Floyer and Holt from their service. Appoint a new Council, to consist of Thomas Saunders (Governor), Richard Prince (Second with succession to the chair), Major Lawrence, Cornelius Goodwin, Richard Starke, Joseph Fowke, Charles Boddam, Henry Powney, Robert Goodere, George Pigot and Samuel Greenhaugh. The members have been

chosen according to 'their real standing' in the service. Though Edward Croke has been omitted from the Council, he may continue in the service, ranking as senior merchant next under Council, with £200 a year in lieu of all pay and allowances. Wynch and Westcott, late of Council, are to rank as they would have done had Madras not been taken. Vacancies in Council are to be filled by the next in standing, unless there is reason to the contrary. George Pigot, who became a prisoner of war at Madras and then came home, now returns to his duty. The whole Council must take the usual oath of fidelity and furnish the usual securities. One of the ablest of Council to be Chief of Vizagapatam and a capable person Chief of Ingeram. Munro and Lightfoot may be re-entertained as Surgeons at Madras if they apply therefor. Enquiry to be made into the accounts of Floyer and all others concerned in the late mismanagement, as there is reason to think that their vast expenditure has not been properly accounted for. Repeat orders for a strict enquiry into the gaming of both civil and military servants, who are to be called before Council and acquainted with the Company's orders.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. MARCH 22, 1750. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 53, *pp.* 75-79 (*Copy* 5 *pp.*)]

Ships' sailings. Have taken up 2 more ships—the *Benjamin* for the Coast and Bay, and the *True Briton* for China. The former will carry an additional supply of treasure to Bengal to pay off debts contracted there. She will call at Fort St. David if she can reach it by August 15, and is to be despatched within 10 days of her arrival with all the rupees on hand and what can be coined in 10 days, an equal quantity of bullion being landed out of her. Errors in the bills of lading for goods sent from Fort St. David to Canton. Extraordinary omission to send home an account of the great storm in April 1749. Defects in the cloth sent home from the Coast. Standing order, that Minutes of Consultation are to be signed by the members present on or before the next Consultation day, and the duplicate copy to be signed on the following Consultation day at furthest. No person to be allowed to come home until he has adjusted his accounts with the Company. Captain Taylor of the *Trial* snow to be dismissed for misconduct when sent to cruise off Bombay against the Angria pirates. On reconsidering the advices of April 25, 1748, regarding Lawrence's pay, find the alterat ion so considerable that the approval already given is

withdrawn. Lawrence is to have only what was agreed upon—£250 a year with the usual allowances for diet, servants and palankin for the Third of Council, and the clothing of his company, without any other allowances or pay of any kind.

The Cash accounts show that Floyer was keeping larger cash balances in his hands than was ordered. All original papers that have passed between Boscawen and the Council relative to payments on account of the Fleet and Army must be sent home with all similar papers relating to Barnett, Peyton and Griffin. Captain Samuel Hough and Peter Downes allowed to reside in India as free merchants. Richard Grindal who has been regularly trained under an eminent Hospital Surgeon, and has practised in London with great reputation, will go out next season as Assistant Surgeon, and is to have the first vacancy of Chief Surgeon after Andrew Munro and Stephen Lightfoot have been provided for.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1750–1751.

DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. SEPTEMBER 26, 1750. [*Public Despatches to England*, *Vol.* 18, *pp.* 1-13 (*Copy* 13 *pp.*)]

This goes by the *Lapwing*, ordered by the Bengal Council to call here for despatches. 4 ships for China arrived and were despatched between May 6 and July 27; 4 more arrived and were despatched for Bengal between July 6 and September 15; and a fifth which has arrived will sail thither in a few days. Have received despatches dated November 3 and December 8, 1749, and January 12 and March 22, 1750. The despatch of January 12 arrived by the *Lynn* on July 6. Lawrence was the only member of the new Council on the spot. He at once sent a copy to the members at Madras, who desired him to take temporary charge of Fort St. David, and to send the *Brilliant* to fetch Saunders from Vizagapatam. Saunders arrived September 19. Goodwin and Greenhaugh have declined the Company's service on the score of ill-health.

Regret the loss of the *Duke of Cumberland*. Have sent up to Bengal all the silver that could be coined by the ships' despatch. The *Swallow* arrived from Madagascar with 245 coffrees on August 28, and the *Fort St. George* with 114 on September 7. The former will be sent to Sumatra with 150 or 160—all she will be able to carry; the rest will be detained here.

Commodore Lisle returned from his cruise to the eastward on September 23, having left behind him Captain Speke with the *Swallow*. Lisle has sailed for Madras to join the *Ruby* and get the orders waiting for him there. Robins arrived on the *Grantham* July 14, has surveyed the works here and at Madras, and now sends his plans and observations.

The French have been only too successful in their destructive schemes; but advice of this must be deferred till the *Fort St. George* sails next month, so as not to detain the *Lapwing*. The diamonds registered amount to 193,432 Pags.

Appended are:—(1) register of diamonds; (2) sailing orders for the *Lapwing*; and (3) list of the packet.

DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. OCTOBER 24, 1750. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 18, *pp.* 14-47 (*Copy* 34 *pp.*)]

This goes by the *Fort St. George.* Ships' movements. The *Severn* had 25 chests of bullion from Bombay for Bengal, which were replaced by rupees here, and she was despatched September 6. Have sent 160 slaves to Sumatra by the *Swallow* and shall send her home in January. Arrack, timber and plank, being greatly needed here, will be brought from Batavia by the *Brilliant.* Will assist to the utmost in sending home as many ships as possible. Have desired Bengal to send down 2 ships half-laded to be filled up here in January; but will be unable to assist Bombay in filling 2 ships which cannot be laded on that coast. Refer to the Company Captain Taylor's claim for pay as Commander of the *Tryal* from January to March. He is dismissed the service, but is a very capable, industrious man. When the supercargoes of the *Portfield* applied for information about Borneo, could only inform them that the Captain of the *Delawar* had written to the late Secretary Mole of his ill-treatment there owing to the machinations of the Dutch. There is no trade between Fort St. David and Borneo, and no linguist could be supplied.

Enumerate damages and deficiencies in the cargoes sent out from Europe. Have received 150 pipes of Madeira in good condition; and last year's supply has also been sent down from Bengal. Could procure no goods suitable to lade on the China ships as there had been 3 Macao ships on the Coast. Have sent in all to Bengal this year 37,21,965 Rs. and 66 chests of silver. Have written to Bengal for 5,000 bags of saltpetre, as Robins considers a large stock should be kept in hand to make powder; and on Lawrence's advice have applied to Bombay for 7,000 barrels of gunpowder. Silver has been cheap and rupees at 400 or more per 100 Pags., owing to Nasir Jang's army (which has been in the Carnatic since the latter part of February) being paid in rupees. On the other hand the War has made every one hide their valuables, so that there is a great scarcity of gold, and it has been difficult to get pagodas even to pay the military, and the Northern investment has suffered much for lack of Madras Pagodas. The only remedy seems a large importation of gold. Beg 100,000 £ worth of silver to be sent out and exchanged for gold in China to be sent to the Coast. Will obey orders about the sale of the Company's goods, but apprehend difficulties. Edwards and Linga Chetti declare that the rupees have always been kept to the usual standard; more samples are sent.

When the merchants were questioned about the investment for the year, they observed that the armies in the country were continually oppressing and plundering the weavers, and insisted on being allowed the same prices as last year. An increase is expected in the Madras investment; orders have been given for the encouragement of merchants and inhabitants there. Have already received 462 bales from Vizagapatam and 390 from Ingeram; hope for further bales by January as more money has been sent. Fear the state of the country may prevent the completing of 2 Bengal ships as well as the despatch of the *Swallow* in January.

Soon after the despatch of the *Elizabeth*, the French, etc., raised the siege of Tanjore, on receipt of the news that Nasir Jang had entered the province and detached troops to relieve Tanjore. Their retreat was so hasty that they left most of their heavy guns and mortars behind them, and are reckoned to have lost 500 Europeans by sickness, etc. Though the Marathas were sent to harass them on their march, they reached Pondichery with little loss about the time that Nasir Jang reached Arcot. After some stay there, the latter marched to Tiruviti (25 miles west of Fort St. David) whence he sent a vakil to Floyer demanding assistance. The French at this time had taken the field again, and were camped 20 miles south-west of Pondichery, as though resolved to make a stand there. They had about 1,000 Europeans, 2,000 sepoys and coffrees, and a large train of Artillery, with 15,000 horse belonging to Muzaffar Jang and Chunda Sahib. Cope was then ordered to join Nasir Jang from Trichinopoly, and Lawrence soon after marched with the troops that could be spared from the garrison. After Lawrence's arrival, the whole army advanced; and, after a day's distant and ineffective cannonade, the enemy retreated so precipitately as to leave behind 10 guns and 2 cohorns (the greater part of their train), the people belonging to which were cut to pieces. The Marathas pursued the enemy as soon as their flight was known, but the latter escaped safely to Pondichery. Muzaffar Jang separated his troops from Chunda Sahib's, and next day submitted to Nasir Jang, who put him in confinement. After this Nasir Jang advanced to Valudavur, 7 miles west of Pondichery, but would not pass beyond that, as Lawrence and Westcott informed him that the English could not act against the French in their Bounds, where they would be principals. Nasir Jang remained at Valudavur about a month, and then moved to Arcot. He desired the English to accompany him; but Lawrence, etc., insisted on first receiving grants of the Poonamallee country, to which demand

Nasir Jang returned no answer; and the English troops were recalled and reached Fort St. David April 22.

Soon after this, the French and Chunda Sahib marched out and began ravaging and levying contributions on the country. They reached and captured Tiruviti, and then sent a party to Chidambaram (25 miles south-west of Fort St. David) where the suburbs were plundered, and a large contribution was about to be levied for not molesting the temple there. At this juncture Muhammad Ali wrote to Floyer, saying that the French were fortifying themselves in Tiruviti, declaring that a sanad granting Poonamallee to the English had been drawn out and lodged with a substantial merchant of Arcot, to be delivered when Muhammad Ali became Nawab in September, and sending a copy of the sanad with a bill of exchange for Rs. 20,000 to defray the expenses of the troops for two months in lieu of the Poonamallee revenues for that time. As the French had declared that they would make Chunda Sahib Nawab, which would be disastrous to the English, Cope was sent out with 600 men and a field-train on June 30, and joined the Nawab (who had come from Arcot with a body of horse) west of Tiruviti. The French then withdrew from Chidambaram without having levied their contribution, left a garrison in Tiruviti, and retired. Our people continued in camp till the middle of August. The French and Chunda Sahib had come out again and were encamped within a mile of us west of Tiruviti; but there was no prospect of an action, as we could not, and the enemy would not, attack; and our officers and men were daily falling sick. On this, Lawrence with the advice of Starke and Powney recalled the troops. A few days later the French attacked the Nawab, scattered his army, and burnt his camp. He fled to Gingee, but, not venturing to stand a siege there, retreated inland, on which Gingee was captured by the French.

Nasir Jang's present with the sundry camp charges amounted to 25,715 Pags. When it was ready, Westcott set out with it to join Lawrence. For details of the embassy refer to the Ambassadors' Diary.* All they could get was fruitless promises. Muhammad Ali has been appointed Nawab of Arcot, and has made the English a grant of the Tiruvendipuram country for services rendered.

Now he and Nasir Jang are again requesting English help. The expense of an expedition will be large; but the consequences of French success will be fatal. Have sent a vakil to Nasir Jang to assure him of our readiness to assist against the French and

* A copy exists in the Orme MSS.

Chunda Sahib provided he will confirm the grants of the countries promised us, but also to declare that we cannot act against the French as principals, as it would be imprudent to make promises which we could not keep. If our demands are granted, the revenues of the countries will maintain a number of men needed for the English garrisons. Understand that if Nasir Jang is defeated, he will give the province over to be plundered by the Marathas. In these circumstances submit that the English garrisons are much too weak, and beg large reinforcements, assuring the Company that no prejudicial schemes shall be entertained and no needless expense incurred.

Andrews has again been plundered at Ganjam; have directed the vakil to obtain redress from Nasir Jang.

Since Robins' arrival, no repairs to buildings, etc., have been undertaken without his approval. Represent the great difficulties caused by the lack of warehouses; those that can be got are scattered here and there, and expensive to hire. Again the ships have to lie a long way out; the boats are few and ill-worked; so that even in the fair season lading is a tedious business, while gales often threaten to drive the ships ashore. The Devikottai bounds have been let for 5 years at 6,000 Pags. a year and 'Cholagga' Nayinar has been appointed Poligar there. As soon as Madras is fairly resettled, the farms shall be relet at their full value; believe that the continued suspension of the grain-duties there for 6 months more will induce most of the inhabitants to return. Up till now the Nawab has granted St. Thomé and Tiruvendipuram with their dependencies, and promised the Poonamallee country; no grants have yet been confirmed by Nasir Jang. Hitherto the rents of the new grants have been directly collected; but it is intended to farm them out at an annual rent.

The Council has been formed according to the Company's orders. Westcott and Alexander Wynch have replaced Goodwin and Greenhaugh who declined the service. Regarding Joseph Fowke, he was formerly appointed Second at Madras, but was not then allowed to take up the post as he had declined rejoining the service when the Company permitted the readmission of the Madras servants; he now claims that the Company intended to continue him there; the matter is not clear, but, in order not to prejudice the consignments that are made to him at Madras, he has been allowed to continue there till the Company's pleasure is known. Richard Prince continues Deputy Governor at Madras. Robert Goodere, who has resided several years to the northward,

has been made Chief of Vizagapatam; and John Churchey Resident at Ingeram. Arrival of Robins and his assistants, of whom Carrington has died. Achilles Preston has been entertained in his place. Fairfield has been appointed Sub-Accountant, a laborious post which carries with it a gratuity at the other presidencies. Richard Turner, writer, died on May 3. Captain-Lieutenant James Killpatrick has been promoted Captain; Ensigns John Innis and John de Mare, Lieutenants; John Brohier, Lieutenant in the Train; and Edward Joseph Cooper, William Harpur, and John Harrison, Ensigns. Captain Dugald MacDonald, Lieutenants Peter Nost and John Turnbull, and Ensigns Edward Stubbs and John Holdman, have died. Lieutenant Francis Cooke and Ensign Peter Campbell have resigned. Lieutenant Philip Bulkeley prefers to remain in the Military; he was appointed Adjutant at Madras on Cooke's resignation.

As the Company's Artillery Regulations allow Dumarchais no hopes of promotion, he has resigned and proposes to go to Batavia. Dawsonne Drake has returned from China and been admitted into the Company's service as Military Paymaster. Dr. Stephen Lightfoot is reported to have died in Bengal. Munro is Surgeon at Madras; and Turing and Wilson, Surgeons at Fort St. David.

Have taken off the pensions as directed. The ex-pensioners solicit the Company's indulgence, and widows Graham and Mansell are living on private charity. Mr. Baker died April 16. The Rev. Robert Palk has been obliged by private affairs to embark for Europe; his conduct has satisfied all; recommend him in case he wishes to return. Lawrence has resigned and now goes home in company with Morse, Floyer, Belsches, Lieutenant Cooke, Ensign Campbell, Miss Rous, and two children. Are in great need of covenanted servants. Do not find that gambling has been prevalent. All civil and military servants have been acquainted with the Company's orders, and those disobeying them will be dismissed.

Stores amounting to 13,771 Pags., expended in the siege of Pondichery, have been written off. Minor errors in accounts.

Have appointed a Committee of Accounts; send their report with all original papers relating to the Squadron's accounts, with a statement of the Madras claims and list of the Madras books. All accounts shall be kept as before the loss of Madras, and a strict scrutiny made. Charles Hopkins reports that he cannot balance the Madras books for 1746 as several papers are missing and the amounts of silver sold monthly by the Warehouse-Keeper are unknown.

The French claim to act as principals, on which ground they have at different times protested against our assisting Muhammad Ali, 'the legal Nawab.' Forward the correspondence that has passed. Will take no 'unwarrantable steps' but will do everything possible to frustrate their schemes, which if successful would ruin the English trade. Hear that Yanam has been destroyed by the Moors. At Masulipatam the French factors were made prisoners, but since then the French have recovered their factory by force, and are excluding the Moors and the Dutch from any trade there. Are surprised that the Dutch should have borne so many insults without showing resentment. Six ships have reached Pondichery this year, said to have brought treasure worth 10 millions of livres; some recruits have arrived, and a large body is said to be coming. 2 ships have been despatched to the Islands with about 200 bales, redwood, etc.; it is thought they will be filled up with coffee. In spite of the great sum sent out, the French investment does not appear to be considerable.

In April Father Angelo de Gertrude, claiming to be Resident for the Emperor at Covelong, desired the English to procure him a farman for that place from Nasir Jang; the request was declined. The Viceroy of Goa also has complained of the seizure of Padre Antonio and of the occupation of St. Thomé; he has been referred to Europe.

Lisle with His Majesty's ships *Vigilant* and *Ruby* sailed for Bombay on October 14. On Lisle's request, the King's stores left behind at Madras have been taken over for the Company's use or for sale at outcry. Belsches has delivered in his accounts, and paid the deductions as ordered; he has signed a bond for the repayment of any further deductions.

Regarding the 10£ permission money for passages, Morse and Floyer say it was never paid by the Company's Governors; Belsches says that Dr. Douglas was excused paying it; and Lawrence and the other officers declare that officers never paid it; the Madras records show that this was the case; so it has not been insisted on. Have put condemned guns aboard the ship to stiffen her at the Captain's desire. The cargo is invoiced at 163,724 Pags. Diamonds, etc., registered 43,095 Pags. Balance in cash 33,460 Star and 129 Madras Pags. Bills have been drawn on the Company for 458 Pags.

Appended are:—(1) register of diamonds; (2) list of the Company's revenues at Fort St. David, May 1, 1749 to April 30, 1750:—farms, 5,700 Pags.; customs and quit-rent, 29,838 Pags.; at

Tiruvendipuram (amount collected from February 27 to October 24), 831 Pags.; at Devikottai (revenue produced by the crop at the time it was taken) 4,000 Pags., now farmed out at 6,000 Pags. a year; (3) list of the packet; and (4) sailing orders for the *Fort St. George*.

DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. NOVEMBER 3, 1750. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 18, *pp.* 48–49 (*Copy* 1½ *pp.*)]

Send this to Bombay to be forwarded overland to report the arrival of all ships destined for the Coast except the *Duke of Cumberland*. The China ships were despatched in good time and the Bengal ships with all the rupees that could be spared. Loss of the *Lynn* in the Hugli. The *Fort St. George* was late in being despatched, but the weather has continued moderate with westerly winds, and she should by now have got out of the Bay. Hope to be able to complete 2 Bengal ships in January and lade the *Swallow* with fine goods if she returns early enough from Sumatra. There is no change in the political situation; but our vakil has seen Nasir Jang, and gives hopes of success.

DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. JANUARY 24, 1751. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 19, *pp.* 1–7 (*Copy* 7 *pp.*) *Damaged; also India Office transcript, Factory Records, Fort St. David, Vol.* 11, *pp.*.1–8.]

Have already written by the *Don Carlos* bound for Persia about 'the unexpected revolution.' When Chunda Sahib's affairs seemed desperate, Nasir Jang was treacherously murdered by the Nawabs of Cuddapah and Kurnool; and at the sight of his head exposed upon a spear his army at once ceased to resist the French who had attacked them. Muzaffar Jang was proclaimed Prince of the Deccan; the officers paid him homage, and in a few hours order was completely restored in the camp. A few days afterwards, they marched to Pondichery, with Nasir Jang's three brothers as prisoners, and made a grand entry; handsome rewards were given to the officers; it is reported Dupleix got an immense sum in jewels and treasure, and that the French Company will be reimbursed for its expenditure and receive grants of inland countries and sea-ports. They already hold Masulipatam, Covelong and Nagore, and are said to contemplate building a fort on Divi Island. The Durbar of Muzaffar Jang is wholly under French influence. It was deemed necessary that a French force should proceed to Golconda to secure Nasir Jang's treasure and firmly establish Muzaffar Jang there before any party could be raised against him. He has

already marched as far as Arcot. A Maratha army is reported to be on this side of the Kistna. He has 300 French and 9 field-guns with him; but it is hoped that the long marches and heat will destroy most of them. Many are said already to have deserted. On departing, Muzaffar Jang appointed Chunda Sahib to the Government of Arcot having already allied himself with the French; and, it is said, left the province entirely under Dupleix' control.

While at Pondichery Muzaffar Jang and Chunda Sahib wrote to the English demanding the restoration of the sea-ports they had occupied during the troubles; so no favours can be expected from the present Government. It is generally believed that Nasir Jang's family will oppose Muzaffar Jang. The revolution has alarmed the King of Tanjore who has demanded English assistance in consequence of a treaty made with Floyer; Muhammad Ali (who luckily escaped to Trichinopoly) has also put in claims to our support. As the murder of Nasir Jang was an act of violence, contrary to the law of nations, the traitors cannot possess legal authority. As Muhammad Ali was appointed Nawab of Arcot by Nasir Jang, he is the legal prince till an appointment is made from Delhi. Have received farmans for the districts granted by him in consideration for the English alliance, in fulfilment of which a detachment has been sent to Trichinopoly under Captain Cope to secure it from any attempts by Chunda Sahib. Lieutenant Pascall has been sent with a detachment to assist the King of Tanjore in consideration of a farman for Devikottai and its bounds from the King. Intend sending Charles Hopkins to Divi Island and Masulipatam to plant the English colours on the Island and in the English factory. Shall protest if any insult is offered them.

The Carnatic is likely to be the scene of war for many years; force of arms is now the only title to the Government; and the success of the Company's affairs depends greatly on having a force to counterbalance that of the French who are said to expect great reinforcements. The revenues of the English grants amount to 50,000 Pags.—St. Thomé 6,000, Poonamallee at least 30,000, Devikottai 6,000, and Tiruvendipuram 8,000. Shipping news.

DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. FEBRUARY 7, 1751. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 18, *pp.* 49–83 (*Copy* 35 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of January 24 sent *via* Persia. Now write by the *Severn* which arrived here January 21. The *Norfolk* has not yet

come in sight. Have ordered the *Britannia* now lying at Madras to be sent if possible to Tellicherry to take in surplus pepper there for Europe.

When the broadcloth was about to be put up at public outcry according to the Company's orders, Linga Chetti petitioned, saying that he had long served the Company faithfully, that he had bought broadcloth when no one else would venture on it, that it had been promised him by Floyer, and that should the new supply be sold in small lots at the limited price less 9 % for prompt payment, the purchasers would be able to undersell him, he still having a large stock on hand. As these facts were not known to the Company, it was decided to let Linga Chetti have the broadcloth this time, but to allow him no claim upon it in future. The copper sent has been sold at Madras at 79¼ Pags. the candy.

Have had ill-fortune with the coffrees, 86 of whom died in spite of every care. The rest are now well; the men are trained to arms, and the women will be sent to Sumatra.

Two country vessels with 40 chests of rupees for Bengal lost their passage and put into Vizagapatam; but it is hoped that the treasure will reach Bengal in time to be of use. Owing to unaccountable deficiencies in the goods and treasure sent lately to Bengal, shall insist on the Captain or Purser seeing all goods weighed and paying for deficiencies.

Learn from Bombay that 900 barrels of gunpowder can be supplied yearly; have embraced this offer as the Bombay gunpowder is much better than that made on the Coast. Rupees are still as low as 382 per 100 Pags. Have ordered all receipts and payments to be made in pagodas. This has supplied gold enough to pay the military who were very discontented; but still lack pagodas for the investment. As such large amounts of silver were sent to Bengal, there was not enough remaining here to answer the merchants' requirements, and so 20 chests of bullion have been taken out of the *Britannia*.

In spite of disappointments, will be able to fill up the *Severn*, *Norfolk* and *Swallow*. Madras has not supplied the expected number of bales, owing (it is reported) to the troubled state of the country; and the Northern investment was greatly affected by 2 ships with supplies of money for Vizagapatam losing their passages. Violent rains from the beginning of October to the end of December prevented washing; and it was thought better to send cloth unbleached than detain the ships. Have made no advances lately to the merchants owing to the low price of rupees.

Affairs are too uncertain to make any promises at present about this year's investment.

The fort of Poonamallee (though not included in the farman and not the Company's property) has been handed over by the Killedar. Prince has sent a detachment there under Lieutenant Campbell, and made a few small repairs. That district reaches 20 miles from Madras, as do parts of the Tiruvendipuram country from Fort St. David. Military expenses have been small; 25,000 Rs. have been received from the King of Tanjore since October, and 16,000 from Muhammad Ali on account of a former expedition.

Consider that the whole success of the Company's affairs here depends on having 'a force to curb the French.' It might have been better for trade if the Country powers had been left to decide their own quarrels; but once the French attempted to surround the English settlements so as to be able to cut off their trade and supplies of provisions, it was judged necessary to oppose them, to avoid a situation ill in peace and worse in war. The troubles in the province leading up to Nasir Jang's death will no doubt be variously represented at Court; to secure proper comprehension of the conduct of the English, will send letters with an impartial account of all that has happened since the coming of Chunda Sahib and Muzaffar Jang.

Robins sends a particular account of the additions, etc., necessary to the fortifications. The excessive rains have hindered the works, which consist in pallisading the covered way, completing the glacis, and digging a dry ditch south of the fort. There being insufficient quarters for the officers, have resolved to build lodgings which Robins estimates to cost 1,981 Pags. At present the only hospital is an old, ruinous building at Cuddalore, where the men are exposed to the severity of the weather, probably at the cost of many lives. A hospital to receive 200 men is estimated to cost 8,492 Pags. and will be begun as soon as the season permits. Devikottai fort, having suffered by the rains, has been ordered to be surveyed. Godown-hire and extra coolies for rice alone cost 3,500 Pags. a year; if similar charges on the rest of the Company's goods were added in, it would go a long way towards paying for the necessary buildings. But this must await the Company's decision regarding the seat of the Presidency. As only 831 Pags. had been collected in the Tiruvendipuram country since March, and the collection was troublesome, it has been rented out for 8,000 Pags. a year. St. Thomé also, producing only 2,106 Pags. in the last year, has been rented at 4,000 Pags. a year exclusive

of sea- and land-customs. Do not yet know the number of villages in the Poonamallee district or its annual revenue; but as in direct collection the money passes through so many hands that half is lost, have resolved to rent this out also.

There has been a decrease in land-customs of 754 Pags. and in sea-customs of 5,389 Pags.; ascribe this to the discouragement of trade by the inevitable slowness in despatching ships, lack of godowns, etc.; whereas Madras is now resettled, ships can be quickly despatched thence, and there are plenty of warehouses, etc. Rice at Fort St. David is 85 Pags. the garse and at Madras only 65; yet owing to the rapidity of despatch at Madras 50 grain-vessels have put in there and only 5 at Fort St. David. The farms at Madras have been let out for one year.

On Starke's being appointed to Fort St. David, Thomas Cooke was sent as Second to Madras. The Rev. Mr. Swinfen died at Madras, November 17; James Wilson at present officiates as Chaplain there with the allowance usual at subordinacies. Charles Hopkins (who resigned owing to ill-health) has now desired permission to execute the covenants sent out for him and has been allowed to do so. John Palmer who has served for some years under the Secretary and Accountant, is recommended for appointment as a Writer. William Percival, having applied for admission into Council at Madras and been refused, has resigned the service. He was originally posted to Fort St. David, but was allowed to remain at Madras in charge of the sea- and land-customs for the sake of his private trade. The Madras Council was appointed before Percival came down from Bengal in January, and he made no complaint till November; moreover he refuses to serve at Fort St. David, which from a commercial point of view is far less advantageous than Madras. Charles Boddam arrived and took his seat in Council, January 17. Andrews reports from Ganjam that upwards of 16,000 Rs. was extorted from him. That settlement has produced constant expenditure for a trifling investment; the death of Nasir Jang has rendered redress impossible; so it has been decided to withdraw the factory.

As the Bombay detachment had outstayed the period agreed upon, and were continually murmuring, as well as being a considerable expense, most of them have been sent back with their Captain, Thomas Andrews, who has behaved very well. On Nasir Jang's death an attack was feared; on which the Company's servants lent their horses for the formation of a small troop. Sergeant Trussler, a well-behaved and gallant man, has been

promoted Ensign; Lieutenant James Hocket of the Train has on Robins' recommendation been promoted Captain-Lieutenant; Lieutenant John Hood has been promoted Captain-Lieutenant in Sumatra, and will proceed thither by the first conveyance. Not having men enough to form an Artillery company at Madras, nor any to spare for Vizagapatam, request 100 able recruits for the Artillery.

Fowke and Greenhaugh ('Church Wardens of the Parish of St. Mary's Stepney') request that the Company will collect from Samuel Harrison 2,325 Pags. due to the church stock.

Have received into the Company's cash 550 Pags. on account of William Petch's estate and 431 on account of Swinfen's. It has proved impossible to balance the Madras books for 1746 for lack of the books of the dependent factories. Appointed Starke, Boddam, Westcott, Powney and Wynch a Committee to investigate the Fort St. David accounts. The Accountant's annual report shows that the expenditure of last year was materially reduced. In November 250 peons and 120 lascars were dismissed; but the general reduction then resolved on was stopped by the death of Nasir Jang which has probably involved the province in lasting troubles.

Hoped to have had no more correspondence with Dupleix, but it has been revived by complaints that Goodere wrote promising to assist the Moors against Yanam and that Captain Dalton had used improper expressions about the French. Goodere's letter has been wrongly translated; Dalton's letter was addressed to a deserter named Keene, and could not have been noticed but by one determined to wrangle. The French are attempting to establish themselves in the best places for trade, without the least regard for their neighbours. They expect a ship from Mahē with 300 Europeans; and say 2,000 will come out on the next ships. A ship left Pondichery for Mocha on January 30; another is about to sail; and 3 more are said to be intended for France with cargoes mostly of Bengal goods. A brigantine with men and stores was sent lately to Masulipatam which they are said to be going to fortify.

Supplement: The *Britannia* had sailed for Bengal before the orders were received for her to proceed to Tellicherry. The *Swallow*, just arrived from Sumatra, is proceeding to Bengal for rice and will be despatched home in May, by which time there will be a cargo of bleached cloth ready for her. She will land Charles Hopkins at Masulipatam. Robins proposes to go on her to Bengal, returning in March.

Send a section separate from Consultations entitled 'Extraordinary Occurrences,' containing matters which it was desired to keep as private as possible. Dorrill's homeward adventure from here is 730 Pags. The *Norfolk* has just arrived. The *Severn's* Coromandel cargo is invoiced at 89,896 Pags. Diamonds, etc., registered, 112,566 Pags. Balance in cash 22,984 Star and 136 Madras Pags. Bills drawn on the Company for 2,247 Pags.; and certificates granted for 236 Pags.

Appended are:—(1) register of diamonds, etc.; (2) manifest of Dorrill's private adventure (60 tubs of camphor valued at 730 Pags.); (3) sailing orders for the *Severn*; and (4) list of the packet.

DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. FEBRUARY 24, 1751. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 18, *pp.* 84-90 (*Copy* 6 *pp.*)]

Now despatch the *Norfolk*. Robins has sailed on the *Swallow* for Bengal and will return in April; Charles Hopkins also sailed on her for Masulipatam and Divi Island. Shipping news. Desire larger supplies of medicines, as the number of sick in hospital has increased. A small quantity of damaged pepper has been sold here at 54½ Pags. the candy. Have about 600 bales of cloth which will be bleached in time for the *Swallow*. Have sent to Vizagapatam and Ingeram 96,000 Rs. and 10,000 Pags.; will send more pagodas shortly.

Have already reported the death of Nasir Jang and the steps taken by the English on the best information that could be got from the camp before Pondichery. The rebels, who had been bribed by the French, were at first pleased; but when they saw Pondichery the metropolis of the province, all things determined by the French, most of the treasure and jewels taken by them, and several large districts to be granted to them, there was great discontent which (it was whispered) would break out as soon as Muzaffar Jang left the province. He therefore took a French escort with him. The English Vakil at Arcot writes that when he reached Rayachuti (5 days' march from Arcot and in the dominions of the Nawab of Cuddapah), the latter and the Nawab of Kurnool complained that Muzaffar Jang was exposing their countries to be plundered by the Marathas, in marching through it contrary to his promise; seized some French horse; and stopped the French ammunition. A battle ensued in which Muzaffar Jang and part of the French were killed on one side, and on the other the Nawabs of Kurnool and Sirpi. After this Nizam Ali Khan (Nasir Jang's

brother) was proclaimed Subahdar and is proceeding by slow marches to Golconda. The friends of the Cuddapah and Kurnool Nawabs are said to be collecting forces to oppose him. Do not know what the issue of this may be. Nizam Ali is a youth of 18, and has several of the French party near him. The destruction of the whole of Nizam-ul-mulk's family might be welcome at Delhi. Muhammad Ali Khan, who is safe at Trichinopoly, has been advised to push his interest at Delhi and to collect troops to oppose his enemies. The English measures have at least prevented the province from falling entirely under French control. Could the Country Governments settle their own affairs, peace might be hoped for; but that is impossible. The French are resolved to seize whatever parts of the province they desire, without regard to the laws of nations. They persist in supporting Chunda Sahib as Nawab of Arcot, and will probably insist on retaining all Muzaffar Jang's grants. Our officer at Tanjore writes that one of our colours has been pulled down and that the French declare it was done by the country people. A ship's master from Masulipatam reports that the French have turned the English factory there into a hospital. It is said they have hoisted their colours at Narsapur (near Madapollam) and claim exclusive rights of trade in the river there. After Nasir Jang's death, by a grant of Muzaffar Jang, they planted their flags all along the English bounds. Have protested against these actions to Dupleix.

At Madras the Betel and Tobacco farm has been let for one year at 4,000 Pags., the Measuring Duty at 1,000, and the Town Brokerage at 700. On February 3, Thomas Eyre (late of Council at Madras) died there. Send translations of the several farmans at Madras and Fort St. David; but many at the former place were lost when the Town was taken. The saltpetre sent from Bengal by the *Norfolk* is 8 candies short; the Captain alleges the bags were so bad that they broke as they were being stowed away. A French ship sailed recently for Europe with 310 bales of cloth, 60 tons of pepper and 20 of redwood. The present ship's cargo is invoiced at 69,960 Pags.; diamonds, etc., registered 1,03,848 Pags.; bills drawn on the Company for 1,048 Pags.; and certificates granted for 5,121 Pags.

Appended are:—(1) register of diamonds; (2) manifest of private trade; (3) sailing orders for the *Norfolk*; (4) list of the Company's revenues at Fort St. David, Fixed 5,700 Pags., Variable 18,402 Pags.; at Devikottai, 6,000 Pags.; at Tiruvendipuram 8,000 Pags.; and at Fort St. George 47,200 Pags.; and (5) list of the packet.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. NOVEMBER 28, 1750. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 54, *pp.* 21-30 (*Original* 10 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of March 22. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches of May 11, August 30, October 9 and 18, and November 2, 1749. Have taken up 15 ships for this season, of which 4 will call at Fort St. David on their way to China and 5 are destined for the Coast and Bay. The Company's ship *Dragon* has been lengthened to a burden of 350 tons, and is also destined for the Coast and Bay. The Committee of Secrecy named. The *Dragon* will bring 60 chests of bullion for Bengal to be coined without delay at Fort St. David; no part of this is to be detained on the Coast, as was done in the case of the *Lapwing's* silver 'by a mean, pitiful evasion of our orders.' The *Dragon* is to be despatched homeward early with a cargo of fine goods, calling at Fort St. David for despatches with a full account of all transactions on the Coast. When the China ships have landed their Fort St. David consignments of bullion, etc., they should be despatched at once for Canton. The China supercargoes named. Cargoes should be put aboard the China ships if it can be done without loss of time. Captains Mason (of the *Dodington*) and Lindsay (of the *Pelham*) having deceived the people at Quedda, the China ships are not to touch there unless their resentment is subsided. A full report of this affair is to be made to the supercargoes of the China ships. The *Warwick* will bring 30 chests of bullion, 150 pipes of Madeira for the Coast, and other goods. She is to be despatched to Bengal with all the treasure that can be spared. The remaining Coast and Bay ships will sail in mid-January with valuable consignments at least equal to those of last year. The ships of this season carry only half their kintledge in iron; the other half must be made up in saltpetre, 40 tons on each ship. Trust that in the next season not only the ships remaining over from former years but also all or most of the ships sent out this season may be sent home. To facilitate this, Bengal has been ordered to send down a sufficient stock of saltpetre with which the cargoes may be completed, and Bombay has been ordered to send to the Coast what surplus pepper can be got, if it is not too dear. If any ship has to be detained in India, it should be the *Wager*. The *Scarborough* should be sent home in the season of her arrival. Stores, etc., for Sumatra. Any shortage of delivery should be endorsed on the bills of lading to facilitate the settlement of accounts with the Commanders of the Company's, and the owners of chartered ships.

No more silver is to be kept on the Coast than what is absolutely needed; all the rest is to be coined and sent to Bengal; estimates of the Coast requirements are to be made from time to time and sent home. The stowage, etc., of the Madeira is to be carefully surveyed, and the Commander must make good anything beyond the normal leakage, unless he can give good reason to the contrary. He and his ship's company are allowed 20 pipes on their privilege. Licensed silver, coral, emeralds, pearls, bugles, etc., overcarried beyond the port of their consignment, are to be returned thither without extra charge at owner's risk. Expect to send 60 recruits for India on each ship. Richard Grindall, appointed a Surgeon at Fort St. David, has changed his mind and will not sail. Peter de Wendler, who sails in this season's shipping, is to succeed to the first vacancy, as Surgeon at Fort St. David, next after the appointments already made. Send a list of the investment. Appoint as writers:—Charles Simpson, George Stratton, Richard Brickenden, Philip Francis Greenslate, George Dawson, Marmaduke Best, and Matthew Clarke. Send 10 tons of Russian iron as an experiment. Ship owners have complained of the exorbitant prices which their Commanders have had to pay for provisions, owing to the monopolies allowed unjustly by Floyer, etc. (as in the case of Dencker the butcher); Commanders are to have free liberty to buy stores, etc., from any person they please. The Company's ships have usually been supplied with stores, etc., out of the Company's stock; in future advances are to be made in cash, out of which supplies of all kinds from the Company's warehouses must be paid for so that the exact cost of each voyage may be ascertained. Licensed silver, etc., landed at Fort St. David may be sent to Madras without further charge or duty at owner's risk. Send a bale containing 10 pieces of superfine shalloon, 54 inches wide, of 5 different colours, as an experiment.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JANUARY 23, 1751. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 54, *pp.* 33-54 (*Original* 22 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of November 28, 1750. No opportunity must be lost of in sending advices home, especially as affairs are in such confusion. The 4 ships now about to sail will only call at Fort St. David to get their bullion coined for Bengal. Bengal to be informed as early as possible of the tonnage that can be provided on the Coast. Boscawen's expedition having necessitated the sending of

numerous ships as transports, so that ships subsequently sent have had to be detained, require as many ships as possible to be returned. Cargoes may be made up with redwood of the sort sent to China, turmeric, lac and other 'gruff goods.' Measures to be concerted with Bengal to assist Sumatra to send home the *Onslow* with a full cargo. If any ships must be detained, they should be let out on freight, which is practicable now that the chief traders have returned to Madras. Hear that a Company is being formed at Emden, under Prussian patronage, to trade to India; no encroachment on English privileges is to be suffered, and no assistance to be afforded by those living under English protection. For some years projects have been on foot to revenge the seizure by the Moghals of the Ostend ships in the Hugli. Hitherto have been able to check these plans; but now have reason to believe that James Mill, a Colonel in the Austrian service, and Captain John Acton, who commands the 3 ships that were stopped 4 years ago, are about to attempt to slip away to India. They are at present in the Adriatic with considerable forces on board. The Country Government is to be warned, and informed that though the expedition is commanded and partly navigated by Englishmen, the nation in general and the Company in particular disclaim and condemn their project. All means are to be used to distress them and hinder their design.

Have been unable to recover anything from the *Duke of Cumberland* which was wrecked near Cape Verde in January 1750. Commanders have been remiss in registering their private trade, especially at Fort St. David; they must be made to do so on oath. Are much concerned at the heavy losses in the storm of April 1749; it was fortunate the ships had few goods on board. Disapprove of Floyer's taking it upon himself to order a sloop for Sumatra to be built at Bombay; the Council should have been consulted. Approve the sending of the weakest ships home in the fairest season. Considering 'the distracted condition' of the crew of the *Fort St. George*, think it was imprudent to send her to Madagascar for slaves. Approve the purchase of the guns saved out of the *Winchelsea* and *Lincoln*, and the allowance made to the officers of those ships. Cite the case of the *Exeter's* bill of lading endorsed 'contents received' although her cargoes of grain from Bengal were deficient. The endorsement prevented any recovery being made from her owners. Time-expired soldiers must not be sent home as charterparty passengers, which costs the Company £10 a head; they must either work or pay for their passage.

All the silver sent on the present ships is to be forwarded in rupees to Bengal. In the case of the *Lapwing*, which had 80 chests of bullion, only 80 chests of Arcot rupees were sent on; so that in effect upwards of 10 chests of Arcot rupees were improperly detained, in spite of the most explicit orders. Cannot accept, for lack of proper estimates, the excuses offered per *Royal George* for not having sent more silver to Bengal. 269 chests were detained out of a total of 629. The sale of all the broadcloth to Linga Chetti at 30% was quite contrary to last year's orders which are to be obeyed. The Russian iron is to be sold separately. Stores for Sumatra. Any surplus stock at Canton this year is to be invested in gold and sent to Fort St. David.

Renewed complaints of carelessness in contracting with the merchants for the investment. Only one Consultation was held regarding the investment of 1749, and then prices were raised considerably on the general ground that the merchants could not supply at cheaper rates, without even enquiring whether other merchants would offer better terms. In order to assist the provision of more tonnage, cloth of inferior quality may be accepted (at proportionately lower prices) provided it is of the usual lengths and breadths. Orders regarding subordinate factories must be communicated in full, not by abstracts only. As the persons indebted to the Company in 1746 have returned to Madras, attempts must be made to recover their debts. Trust that the balances due from the merchants who provided the 1748 investment have long since been recovered.

Consider the capture of Devikottai a rash and unjust enterprise, concerted without authority and contrary to the Company's interests. It has been the Company's constant policy to maintain a good understanding with the Country powers. The people of Tanjore had always been friendly; and the claims of Shahji were no business of the English. Moreover, even if they were just claims, the project promised no advantage to the Company's commerce. Devikottai is likely to be a source of expense rather than of profit; and its seizure will incite the Marathas against the English. In any event, it was the highest presumption in Floyer, Prince and Lawrence to advance money to Shahji and plan the expedition, without the consent of the other councillors, who knew nothing of it till the troops were 10 miles on their way. Had they been consulted, it would have been condemned by a majority, for Croke and Westcott disapproved it altogether, while Holt and Wynch only concurred as matters had gone so far. Croke reports that his

minute against the expedition was not allowed to be read or entered on the Consultations—another instance of the extraordinary conduct of Floyer, Prince and Lawrence. However as affairs stand, Devikottai must be maintained as cheaply as prudence will allow, and its commerce ('which is our true interest') must be fostered. At the same time good relations must be re-established with Tanjore.

The part taken by the Council in consequence of Nizam-ul-mulk's death appears very different, for they avoided interference beyond what circumstances demanded. Particularly approve the occupation of St. Thomé and the assistance afforded to Muhammad Ali Khan, who, it is hoped, will show himself grateful if he ever becomes Nawab. However no part is to be taken in Country Government disputes unless the Company's interest absolutely requires it. Approve of the allowance made to Haji Hadi, though it is large, as it is evidently necessary to get reports from such a person while the country is so unsettled. But the allowance should only continue so long as may be necessary. Approve the disallowance of the Madras Poligar's claim to a perpetual right to that post; no such claims can be tolerated.

Cannot give directions regarding fortifications till Robins's report has been received. As the French, contrary to the Treaty, carried away all the cannon from Madras, approve the obtaining cannon and ammunition from Boscawen. It was proper to suspend the duties at Madras for six months; but it is said that considerable sums were extorted by some of the Company's servants for liberty to return there; a particular enquiry is to be made, and any such sums are to be refunded to the persons injured. If possible enough revenue must be raised at Devikottai to cover the expenses of that place. Although the English ambassador at Paris has demanded the restitution of the military stores, etc., carried away by the French from Madras contrary to the 9th article of the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, the French are evading the demand with their usual chicanery. As the French at Pondichery have done all in their power to distress the English, and are likely to continue doing so, the Council must be constantly on guard against them, and furnish such exact and authentic narratives of the French proceedings as may warrant applications for redress in case of any violations of the Treaty. Will decide about Wynch's house when Robins has reported on it. Boscawen has permitted the Company to take copies of his plan relating to its affairs. In a letter dated February 10, 1750, Fathers Severini and Bernard complain that

they have been dispossessed of their houses and churches, which are to be given to the Danish Lutheran Missionaries, and that they have been turned out of the White Town. Await further despatches before passing orders on this, as also regarding the confiscation of the houses of those who remained at Madras under the protection of the French. In Europe in such cases it is usual to allow people to retain their property unless they have taken an overt part against their first masters.

Appoint as writers:—James Bourchier, Peter St. Paul, Henry Brooke, John Casey, William Lefevre, John Calland, Thomas Mansell, and Henry Eustace Johnstone. The first two who are at Fort St. David are to serve as writers for 5 years from the arrival of this despatch. St. Paul's appointment is on condition that he is not a Roman Catholic. All the above except St. Paul (who has already been vouched for by the Council) have produced certificate that they are full 16 years old and have undergone a regular course of arithmetic and book-keeping. This is a rule which will be followed in future appointments. All the Company's servants must be encouraged to learn the Country languages; advise a frequent shifting of posts so that they may acquire a general knowledge of the Company's business. Have permitted to reside in India as free merchants:—William Tidcombe, Solomon Nathan, Ralph Wardlaw, Nathaniel Wilson, and Francis Fowke (late a factor at Bombay). Permit Ralph Taylor to go to India, and Peter Gallopine to remain there, as mariners. Covenanted servants who have not yet given proper security, must write immediately to their friends to do so. Have granted Holt a pension of £30 a year for so long as he is unable to transact any business. A list of all unlicensed persons under the Presidency of Fort St. David is to be sent home, showing the time of their arrival and the ship they went out on. Approve of Fordyce's suspension. Confirm the appointment of Robert Palk as Chaplain; but Swinfen, who was appointed by the Company, is to have precedence over him.

Regarding the money transactions at Madras in 1746, Morse was no doubt best able to give information; but other persons should have been examined too, especially when Morse showed himself indisposed to reveal anything. The Council's enquiries were languid and indifferent. As Morse has not yet arrived, the Company knows no more about the Madras affair than when it first ordered the enquiry to be made. Morse's conduct renders it doubtful whether he will give the Company the information needed; and the enquiry is to be proceeded with according to former orders.

When Robins has reported upon Madras and Fort St. David, will then decide which shall be the seat of the Presidency. Meanwhile the merchants, etc., of Madras are to be encouraged, as it very probably will be restored to its former position. Complain that Consultations have been sent home unindexed. The date of each Consultation should always be recited in the next. Exact lists of all residents at the subordinate factories should be sent home annually. Discrepancy between a diamond register and the bill of lading. One Kuddam Narayanan of Fort St. David complains that Mutyalu has been keeping him wrongfully out of a piece of garden-ground in spite of frequent applications to the Council; an enquiry to be made and Mutyalu obliged to make full satisfaction if necessary.

The Naval Commissioners for the sick and wounded have refused * to pass £756 in Belsches' accounts between August 1, 1748, and September 30, 1749. This amount is to be deposited by Belsches in the Company's Cash until he shall have furnished such vouchers as may enable the Company to recover the stoppages.

The extra allowance of 20 Pags. a month to Pybus as Military Storekeeper makes it appear that 'you . . . look upon yourselves rather as a military colony than the factors and agents of a body of merchants'. Covenanted servants are bound to fulfil the duties of their employments with the usual allowances. No extraordinary allowances to be made in future without the Company's sanction. The Military Storekeeper may receive a monthly allowance of 10 Pags. for the extra trouble of the post. The 2 clerks on 10 Pags. a month each are to be replaced by 2 of the Company's writers without extra allowances. Mrs. Antonia de Madeiros and Shawmier Sultan may be assured that, as soon as the Company is satisfied of the justice of their claims for money lent on bond to Morse, etc., at Madras, they shall be paid. On February 10, 1747, James Munro was permitted to go to India to be employed as Surgeon at one of the Presidencies; but this was not inserted in the Company's despatches. Now direct that he shall succeed according to the date of his appointment.

Are much disappointed that only 500 of the King's troops joined the Company's service, and that by means which involved establishing 4 companies in excess of the Regulations. Believe this was inevitable in the circumstances; but the 11 companies are

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* The remarks of the Commissioners form pp. 139—142 of Vol. 54 of *Public Despatches from England.*

to be reduced to 7 as occasion offers. Send 275 good recruits. To encourage the re-enlistment of time-expired soldiers, a bounty of £10 may be offered for five years' additional service. None of the recruits for Bengal are to be detained; indeed 'we hope you will be able to spare some of yours.' A certain number of topasses may be retained if really necessary, but they should not be paid full European rates. Repeat positively the orders for breaking the Troop of horse, 'as we are determined to have our commands obeyed.' Approve the commission given to Dumarchais in the Train. It is reported that there have been abuses in paying the Military and others, whereby discontent has arisen; order an enquiry; any guilty persons must refund their wrongful gains and be suspended. Among others compelled to pay for re-admission to Madras, Bukanji Kasidas is said to have paid 3,000 Pags. Positively order a strict enquiry. Robert Trotter, James Taylor, and Augustus Burton allowed to reside in India as free merchants. Direct the payment of all arrears of interest at 6% due on the sum of 6,000 Pags. paid into the Company's Cash by Father Severini on account of a hospital for female orphans.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO BENJAMIN ROBINS. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JANUARY 23, 1751. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 54, *pp.* 57–58 (*Original* 2 *pp.*)]

Received Robins' plans of the wrecked *Duke of Cumberland*, with his report on her, dated March 5, 1750. Failure of the salvage operations. Await his reports, not only on the fortifications and Artillery corps, but also on the general defence and military establishments in India. Desire him to advise the Company's agents in India how to make gunpowder better and cheaper than at present.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. FEBRUARY 6, 1751. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 54, *p.* 61 (*Copy* 1 *p.*)]

Have enquired into the conduct of Captain Mason of the *Dodington* and Captain Lindsay of the *Pelham* at Quedda. Finding that they committed hostile acts without sufficient reason, have inflicted exemplary punishment upon them. As Mason's misconduct was principally caused by the indecent and disorderly behaviour of Simon Loake, supercargo of the *Mary* schooner of Calcutta, have ordered the latter to be sent to England. This

action is to be communicated to the King of Quedda with a view to re-establishing good relations.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. MARCH 13, 1751. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 54, *pp.* 63–64 (*Copy* 1½ *pp.*)]

Acknowledge the receipt of despatch dated September 26, 1750, and a letter from Robins of September 25. Robins' report has strengthened the Company's opinion that Madras is the best seat for the Presidency. Shall finally decide on receipt of the earlier despatches not yet come to hand. Meanwhile the trade of Madras is to be encouraged and Robins may throw up such works as are needed for immediate defence. Approve Robins' engaging Achilles Preston, 'a youth who was on board the *Grantham*,' *vice* Carrington deceased. Also approve the engagement of Brohier.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO BENJAMIN ROBINS. EAST INDIA HOUSE. MARCH 13, 1751. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 54, *p.* 67 (*Original* 1 *p.*)]

As in the preceding despatch regarding Madras, Achilles Preston, and Brohier. Approve the alterations in the defences of Fort St. David, especially as the cost seems very moderate.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1751-1752.

ABSTRACT OF DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. AUGUST 6, 1751. RECEIVED FEBRUARY 16, 1752. [*Coast and Bay abstracts. Letters Received, Vol.* 5, *pp.* 283—288. (*India Office transcript.*)]

Cite despatch of February 24. Acknowledge the receipt on May 9 of despatch, dated November 28, 1750. Movements of the Bay and China shipping. The *Kent*, *London*, *Shaftesbury* and *Swallow* are the only ships of last year still in India. The *Warwick* was freighted for private voyage to China; the *Hardwicke* ditto between Coast and Bay; and the *Scarborough*, if Bengal agrees to it, to Mocha. Desire that Council may have its choosing of vessels to be employed in country trade. Commanders are given a free hand in the purchase of provisions. Foreign ships will be obstructed in their pernicious schemes.

'Cargoes of the ships landed at Fort St. George on account of dispatch and warehouse room.' 'Russia iron sold well and shalloons except blue sort which went under prime cost. A small quantity of the latter will be sufficient, the country not being inclined to it. Iron being in demand, have indented largely.' Will not detain Bengal treasure unless absolutely necessary. 'What sent last year insufficient for them and apprehend the Company will suffer from its being so this. The beginning of the year could not advance the merchants, and should goods offer they will be streightened for cash.' As silver is at a low price, can only buy gold at the current rate. 'Coffrees make good soldiers. They are dreaded by the Moors. Desire an outward bound ship may be orderd to bring some men-slaves.' 'Goods for the China market bought up by Macao ships in February; so not procurable. Silver from its cheapness will answer as well.' Cloth will be put up for sale as directed, notwithstanding merchants' protest.

'On making a new contract, urged the merchants to an abatement in price and better sortment from last year's advance; the badness of and difficiency in quantity of the goods, with the small investment of the French and cheapness of cotton which brought

them to a deduction of one pagoda per corge in the ordinary long-cloth and half pagoda in the sallampores, then cotton at 30 and French took little cloth ; they have since contracted, cotton being at 42 Pags., and have allowed the merchants 2 Pags. a corge more which will greatly affect them.' 'Were the present substantial merchants to be laid aside, it would be their ruin and their ballances difficult to be recovered, but if any one of known substance offers he shall be accepted.' 'In May last agreed to take in the best of a considerable parcel of cloth turnd out, though somewhat wanting in length and breadth. The Company have since granted this liberty which may in time prejudice the manufacture. The French and Danes snatch it up. It is for the Company's advantage to take it with an allowance for defects.' 'Want of gold checks investment. Merchants are advanced in rupees to the Company's loss. With the greatest difficulty have procured Madras Pagodas for Northern settlements.' 'Vizagapatam promises a good quantity of cloth and business goes on well at Ingeram.' 'Mr. Andrews is ordered to quit Ganjam on the Government's badness (French investing at Narsapur). He is orderd to Maddapollam and remitted 10,000 Pags., but not to go to the expence of a factory till certain of succeeding.'

'Since their last have compleated the mines and gallerys, cleand the ditch and erected a saluting battery; not having workmen or materials, the hospital and officers' lodgings are postponed.' 'Mr. Wynch's house—for the distance is judgd not to be the least inconvenient.' 'Mr. Robins who has been in a desperate way is now, it is hoped by the doctor, recovering. They believe he has projected the works for Bengal. When recovered he will go to Madrass and thence to Bengal.' 'Cuddam Narrain's affair of the garden alledged to be bought by him was paid for by the other who has a bill of sale of it. This matter adjusted by the Deputy Governors Hubbard and Monson long ago.' 'Bocunjee has been wrote to at Golcondah about the money said to be extorted from him. Shall enquire into and redress any injustice that has been done the natives.'

'Messieurs Simpson, Greenslate, Stratton, Dawson, Best, Clarke, and Calland arrivd; and James Bourchier and St. Paul (a Protestant) entertaind writers. Monthly writers shall be discharged. Ralph Taylor permitted to stay in the sea-faring way arrived.' 'Mr. Pybus (Military Storekeeper). His allowance reduced to 10 Pags. a month.' 'Thankful for the supply of military. Those designd for Bengal will be detained till the troubles are over.

They are paid to according to Regulations and no frauds used. The Troop shall be disbanded, and no new companys formed. A bounty of Rs. 40 will be sufficient to induce them to relist.' 'Mr. James Munro Surgeon is by choice at Vizagapatam. Andrew Munro and Robert Turing their head surgeons agreeable. Mr. Wilson at Fort St. David and Mr. Hancock at Devecottah. Hope he will be approved, he being experienced and they wanting such a one.' 'Persons residing without license under them shall be advised of.' 'Mr. Foss Westcott appointed Resident at Ingeram.' 'Mr. Robert Goodere being ill, permitted to go to Bengal to return in January; the charge of Vizagapatam thereupon committed to Messrs. Churchey and Banks.' 'Mr. Hugh Norris for the recovery of his health by the sea air had leave go to China on the *Warwick* and return in December.' 'Mr. Charles Turner on the like occasion at Madrass.' 'Mr. John Barker dyed at Madrass 24th ultimo.' 'Mr. William Reade disorderd in his senses returns on this ship.' 'Mr. Richard Fairfield, Sub-Accountant, appointed to close the Madrass books ending April 1746 (Mr. Hopkins being sent to the Northward). He is allowd £100 a year for that trusty and laborious employ till the Company's pleasure is known.' 'Mr. Henry Vansittart granted £30 per annum as Translator. He has taken great pains in translating the pieces received from Pondicherry.'

'Found their mistake as to diamonds registerd that they should be to Joseph Solomons.' 'Have paid the interest due to Padre Severini. On Mrs. Medeiros' application she was told, as well as others, they must wait till the affair was settled at home.' 'Mr. Pigot appointed Commissary for Accounts of Country Government and detachments abroad.' 'Madras General books for 1745 will be sent in September but imperfect, the import and export warehouse books being missing. Several of the accounts from April 1746 to September cannot be found.' 'Send the Committee's report on the late Council's accounts. Can't at this distance of time prove any frauds, but the expences ran exhorbitantly high, and the articles charged excessively dear.'

Sumatra affairs.

'The want of the regular forms of justice is of great inconvenience.'

'Captain Speke of the *Swallow* drew on them 10th October last from Batavia for 749 Pags.' '*Vigilant* and *Ruby* sailed from Tellicherry for Madagascar, 29th April.' 'Hear the *Tartar* has lost her passage to Persia.' 'Mr. Belsches' bond to be responsible as to accounts sick and hurt formerly sent.'

Supplement: Acknowledge the receipt of despatch, dated February 6, per *Duke of Dorset*. 'The *Duke of Parma*, *Le Rochelle* and *Le Saint Priest*, French ships, arrived at Pondicherry and *Tevenapatam* from the Islands. They landed 160 chests treasure, 240 men and 450 bales broadcloth. They have sent a ship to the Islands with 450 bales piece-goods.' 'Two ships arrived from Tranquebar are to be sent home in September.' 'A Dutch ship at Negapatam from Batavia says a large reinforcement is on board this year's shipping.' 'A Portuguese ship with 40 military arrived in her way to Bengal where it is said they will re-establish their settlement.' 'The King of Quedah shall be acquainted with the resentment shown the Captains who behaved ill there. Simon Loake ran away from his vessel having shot Mr. Noke, the other supracargo. If he comes to the Coast he shall be sent home per orders.' 'All their advices have shown business cannot be regularly carried on till Madras is appointed the Presidency.' 'Captain Lieutenant Hocket, a turbulent and disobedient officer of the Train broke at the instance of Mr. Robins, takes passage on the *Swallow*.' 'John Francis Vareilles, able in his profession and recommended by Mr. Robins has a Captain's brevet granted him.' 'Mr. Robert Clive promoted to the rank of Captain by brevet without pay, in reward of his particular services. He was senior Lieutenant on his re-entering the civil list.' The invoice of this ship amounts to 62,773 Pags.; diamonds, etc., registered, 49,246 Pags.; and Captains' private trade, 8,064 Rs. The cash balance is 8,816 Pags.

'Postscript, dated 15th August, 1751. The *Swallow* detained by being run aboard of by a Dutch ship going out of the road in the night. Obliged the Dutchman to make good the damage.' Bills on the Company for 1,132 Pags.

SEPARATE DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. AUGUST 15, 1751. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 19, *pp.* 8–21 (*Copy* 14 *pp.*). *Damaged. Also Factory Records, Fort St. David, Vol.* 11, *pp.* 347–364. *(India Office transcript.)*]

Soon after the elevation of Nizam Ali as Subahdar of the Deccan, he gave up the command of the army to his elder brother Sayyid Muhammad Khan alias Salabat Khan. They then marched with the French (of whom only 60 had been killed) to Golconda,

whence the French refused to move till they had been paid four lakhs of rupees. This was done; warlike stores were procured from Masulipatam; and they then marched to Aurangabad, where they still are, having met with no opposition. Nasir Jang's wife and mother sought to move the Marathas to establish his son in the Government; but these made friends with Salabat Jang, and hearing that the Guzaratties under Damaji had invaded their country, cut off the Government of Aurangabad, extorted 15 lakhs of rupees, and went home. The Moghal on hearing of Nasir Jang's murder is said to have appointed Ghazi-ud-din Subahdar of the Deccan; the latter marched some stages south, but then named Salabat Jang as his Deputy. It is believed that there is great discontent among the nobles in the Deccan; the country is in confusion; and no troops have been sent this way.

Have received from Muhammad Ali a copy of the farman from the Moghal appointing him Nawab of Arcot, and of a letter from Ghazi-ud-din. The French gave out the same about Chunda Sahib. The latter remained in Pondichery till the middle of March, when he set out, took Chetpattu by treachery and Arni; on which Murtaza Ali Khan submitted to him. He then moved to Arcot and thence towards Trichinopoly. On Chunda Sahib's leaving Pondichery, 400 men under Captain de Gingens marched out and camped at Tiruvendipuram and then at Tiruviti. Muhammad Ali was urged to join the English in the field; he agreed to pay all the field-charges of the troops. The English took Vriddhachalam which was garrisoned with a sergeant and 30 men, and then joined Muhammad Ali at Valikondapuram. In spite of the recruits received from England, the English had not as many Europeans in the field as the French had; but the prospect seemed fair, and de Gingens was urged to come to an engagement. The Killedar of Valikondapuram declared himself a friend of Muhammad Ali; but he refused to admit troops into his garrison; and intercepted letters proved him to be an enemy. Accordingly the pettah was burnt and the Killedar summoned to surrender; but the French contrived to throw a relief of Europeans and cannon into the place about 10 o'clock next morning. A short action ensued, in which the Nawab's people and the coffrees behaved well and our people ill. We lost Ensign Harper and only 7 or 8 men; the enemy's loss is said to be heavier. But the unlucky action encouraged their people and depressed ours; and that night de Gingens thought fit to retire to Uttatur, 20 miles nearer Trichinopoly, abandoning some shells and baggage. The enemy followed and

camped about 5 miles off. In a reconnaissance Lieutenant Maskelyne, some sepoys and 2 or 3 troopers were taken prisoners. Maskelyne has since been released on his parole. A few days later our advanced guard under Captain Dalton was attacked but drove back the enemy with considerable loss. 'Still conquering, still retreating, our Army decamped from Uttatur that night, abandoning part of its baggage, and crossed the Coleroon by boat (it not being fordable at that time), and then crossed the Cauvery. De Gingens reports that he withdrew for fear of the enemy's cutting his communication with Trichinopoly. At present they have about 2,000 sepoys in Srirangam, 3 or 4 miles from our camp, but their main body is on the banks of Coleroon, having been as yet unable to cross.

These successive retreats have alarmed Muhammad Ali, discouraged his friends, and hindered many from declaring for him. Have a mortgage bond for Trichinopoly, dated July 15, 1750, and have hoisted our flags there; so shall protest against Dupleix for any hostilities that may be committed there. The Fort is known to be strong; we have over 900 regular troops in the field, and the French but 600, including 200 seamen; so it has been resolved to leave 3 or 400 to defend the Fort, and according to the Nawab's desire make a diversion in the Arcot country with the rest, joined with the Nawab's forces, with a view to raising contributions.

At the beginning of February, Charles Hopkins was appointed to proceed to Divi Island, support our claim to it, and demand our factory at Masulipatam. He arrived on February 20, but La Selle and a few French seized him, obliged him to strike his colours, and carried him under guard to Masulipatam, where Friell (the Chief) refused leave for him to proceed to Madapollam. In answer to a previous protest Dupleix announced his willingness to surrender the English factory at Masulipatam pending the receipt of orders from Europe; but has made no reply to the main points of a serious remonstrance regarding the treatment of Hopkins. In the Narsapur river they are demanding 3% customs from Europeans, and 5% from all others, importing goods; but by the Moghal's farman the English are allowed to trade free of customs in all settlements. The French have pulled down English flags in the Kumbakonam district of Tanjore, claiming country which the King declares he never made over to them. As Dupleix disregards 'the laws that are held sacred by all nations,' do not suppose he will recognize the English claim to Trichinopoly.

The Dutch still do nothing, though threatened with the destruction of their trade.

The French scheme evidently is to occupy all convenient settlements and territories and ruin our trade; even should Chunda Sahib be defeated and all his family be cut off, they would at once set up some one else. Their frequent successes have given them reputation in India and will probably secure support from Europe. 'The weakness of the Moors is now known, and 'tis certain any European nation resolved to war on them with a tolerable force may overrun the whole country.' The French now have 2,000 men and the Company must resolve to maintain a force equal to theirs or to settle affairs in Europe. The French occupation of territory surrounding ours shows an intention to annoy us, and their claim to levy duties where we have factories and a free trade is 'illegal.'

Hitherto have kept only a 'command' at Devikottai; but as the Company approves its retention, shall now send a covenanted servant there, and endeavour to procure cloth from Shiyali, not far off, where good cloth is made. Have considered it advisable to continue the allowance of Rs. 300 a month granted to the pretended King of Tanjore, until his affairs can be settled so as not to reflect upon the English. Haji Hadi has deceived us in spite of his handsome allowance; as he knows all the English affairs, it will not be safe to dismiss him at present, but will do so as soon as possible.

St. Thomé is important. Its possession by another power would injure the English land customs and trade and afford a refuge for deserters. It has for many years been under Muhammadan Government; and the Portuguese have flown no flag there save what the ecclesiastics have used on feast-days. As soon as this claim was heard of, an officer with 60 men was sent there, and 'additions made to a large building,' to prevent the place being surprised. Have since received a letter and protest from Baron de Vellaroys, sent by the Viceroy of Goa as Governor of St. Thomé, and who is at Pondichery concerning measures with Dupleix. The Country powers are more likely than the Portuguese to attack St. Thomé.

Await orders regarding the treatment of Roman Catholic priests, etc. They assist French trade in peace and furnish information in war. Advise that their houses be sold and the produce given to them. The Portuguese Church [in the Fort at Madras] is a nuisance and should not be restored to them, as there are plenty of churches outside which they can use. No Frenchman, Portuguese, priest or Armenian should be allowed to live in the Fort.

Robins died July 29. His judgment, assiduity and honesty render the public loss great and his agreeable conduct causes him to be generally lamented. Brohier succeeds him in charge of the works, as he had managed them under Robins. Recommend him as capable and honest; he is a Lieutenant of Artillery and desires preferment that way. Robins often spoke of John Call as the most promising and talented of his Assistants; a map of Fort St. David drawn by him is sent herewith. For economy's sake shall take off the Engineering Assistants' general table and make each a diet allowance. Hope the Engineer that will be sent out to succeed Robins may be as capable and agreeable.

Have to report the mutinous behaviour of the officers. When English troops first went out in the service of the Country powers, they had 'a large gratification'; but after the grant of Poonamallee and St. Thomé, the matter was regulated by Lawrence on the basis of giving double-pay to cover extraordinary expenses when in the field. The troops at Tiruviti, Trichinopoly and Tanjore were on this footing; and 'the last command' had been in camp two months before Saunders received any remonstrance. The officers seemed satisfied for a time with his answer; but afterwards it was repeated 'in positive and mutinous terms.' The Nawab was always averse to paying this batta and is now distressed for money; yet he has been very generous, and in fact every officer has gained handsomely since going into the field. Was unable to try any of the officers because the paper was signed by all the Captains, and two must sit to form a court-martial. 'Among the many bad customs introduced by the King's troops,' is that of refusing to roll with officers who refuse to take part in any plan; and many were coerced into signing the paper. Intend to send 2 or 3 of the ringleaders home in September. Hope to be supported in this step as it proceeds from no personal feeling. There is news from Tellicherry that the French are behaving in the same way on the Malabar as on the Coromandel Coast; they have taken the part of the nephew of the King of Colastry and are building fortifications. Are in need of Artillery men and a Commanding officer of experience, provided he is not of a turbulent disposition.

Postscript: Have just received a protest from the French about a letter which they allege to have been written by Goodere, but which Council declared to be spurious. Are sure the French will be confined by no law but their convenience; shall obstruct them as much as possible.

DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. SEPTEMBER 30, 1751. RECEIVED MAY 10, 1752. [*Factory Records, Fort St. David, Vol.* II, *pp.* 371—378. (*India Office transcript.*)]

Wrote last by the *Swallow.* This goes by the *Dragon.* Shipping news. The *Hawke* which was sent from Bengal to fetch Robins reached Madras, the 12th. Complain that the Bengal Council will not agree in any measure taken by Madras to let to freight any Coast and Bay shipping. They have upset the contract to let the *Hardwicke* for 40,000 Rs. and might have let the *Scarborough* for the same sum. The Company ordered to be forwarded to Bengal what could be spared out of the treasure from the *Warwick*, but a lack of funds is anticipated before the end of the year. Have sent on the treasure consigned to Bengal, and cannot understand why the Bengal Council should regard the *Warwick's* treasure as consigned to them. Desire that the consignments to each settlement may be specifically stated. Received only 482 bags of rice by the *Britannia.* The Salem merchants cannot bring in their cloth, as the enemy lie in the way. Have ordered the purchase at a reduced price of the large stock of cloth at Vizagapatam and Ingeram which though short-measure is of good quality. Enclose Brohier's report on the fortifications. On Robins' recommendation have granted to Brohier and Call an additional allowance of 15 Pags. a month each, together with 10 Pags. a month instead of keeping a general table for them. Call and O'Hara are under Brohier. Glass and Morris have Ensign's commissions. Preston assists in the Export Warehouse. Knapton is at Ingeram. Captain Richards died September 17, leaving no will. On September 4, Captain-Lieutenant Murray deserted. Captain Killpatrick takes passage on the *Dragon.* It being a sickly season at Vizagapatam, John Ringer died on August 6, Munro on July 31, and John Churchey on August 18. As the season is far advanced, cannot send a Chief thither till January; meanwhile have left Samuel Banks in charge together with Captain John Crompton. James Wilson will be sent from Madras to replace Munro. Joseph Fowke has resigned and takes passage on the *Dragon.*

Sumatra affairs.

A Danish ship has sailed from Tranquebar; and another will follow. Being in troubles at Batavia, the Dutch have not yet decided what to do on the Coast. Have heard nothing of foreign ships. Forward Orme's reply to the Company's enquiries regarding his conduct in Bengal. There being no room for Captain

Killpatrick on the *Dragon*, he will take his passage on the *Britannia*. Diamonds, etc., registered amount to 116,707 Pags. The cash balance is 3,964 current and 722 Madras Pags.

Postscript: The bills drawn on the Company amount to 1,169 Pags.

SEPARATE DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. SEPTEMBER 30, 1751. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 19, *pp.* 22—25 (*Copy* 3½ *pp*). *Defective. Also Factory Records, Fort St. David, Vol.* 11, *pp.* 365—368. (*India Office transcript.*)]

Have put in execution the design of making a diversion in the Arcot country in order to draw off the enemy from Trichinopoly. 130 men under Captain Robert Clive embarked August 22 on the *Wager* for Madras, where they were joined by 80 more. They marched to Arcot, and (beyond expectation) occupied the Fort without resistance. The Sarkar's and Muhammad Ali's flags have been hoisted, and the inhabitants protected. Clive reports several successful skirmishes with the enemy, but the smallness of his forces and lack of horse prevent any decision. The Nawab has appointed collectors of revenue, but nothing can be done till he sends two or three thousand horse. Yesterday sent Lieutenant Innes with 130 men up to Madras on the news that Chunda Sahib's son with 2,000 horse, some French and sepoys, had marched from Gingee.

At Trichinopoly Chunda Sahib has crossed the Coleroon and taken Koyiladi though with considerable loss; he is now preparing to cross the Cauveri. It is thought that he will not attempt to besiege Trichinopoly, having enough of neither men nor stores, but that he will blockade it. But it has 8 months' provisions, the rains are setting in, and Chunda Sahib lacks money for his troops. If he overcomes these difficulties, Muhammad Ali must make the best terms he can, 'as ours and the Nabob's force are not able to face them in the field.' Our greatest disadvantages are the Nawab's fear of the French and lack of money. Hope to remove the latter in part by collecting some of the Arcot revenues. The King of Tanjore is neuter; but the King of Mysore is sending troops towards Trichinopoly. Should Chunda Sahib be successful, both these countries would be conquered. A letter was received a few days since purporting to come from Salabat Jang, but was written in two different hands and is believed spurious. The harkara admitted he had come from Pondichery and had been obliged to bring it by

Dupleix. It demands the surrender of St. Thomé, Poonamallee, and Tiruvendipuram. Have heard nothing more of the French at Aurangabad. It is generally believed none will return. The French continue fortifiying Masulipatam and Divi Island. The Dutch Chief who struck his colours at Masulipatam has been summoned to Batavia. Goodere absolutely denies writing the letter to the Nawab of Rajahmundry which Dupleix accused him of. Fear the French may be too strong in spite of all efforts to defeat them. Of the mutinous officers, determined to send home Captains Killpatrick and Richards, and Captain-Lieutenant Murray. But Richards is dead and Murray deserted. Killpatrick will sail on the *Britannia*.

DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. OCTOBER 24, 1751. RECEIVED MAY 10, 1752. [*Factory Records, Fort St. David, Vol.* 11, *pp.* 395—404. *(India Office transcript.)*]

The *Britannia* arrived here on October 2. Have laded on her bales which fell short of her charterparty by nearly 28 tons. These three years, ships have been despatched late in October. This has been unavoidable, and it is lucky that they have escaped the usual monsoon storms. As ships can seldom arrive from Bengal before the end of September, propose next year to keep one of the Coast and Bay ships for the September despatch. Shipping news. Request that red fir spars be sent instead of the white ones which, through want of turpentine, dry, snap and decay in this climate. Are in much need of muskets, military stores, etc. Send a cartridge box of a more convenient pattern than those usually sent. Many of the muskets received this year were poor. Though the cash balance is low, no Bengal bullion has been detained. Formerly large payments were paid into cash for bills; but this has greatly declined, and more bullion is needed. 'Our situation from the revolution in the Country Government and the measures of our neighbours is troublesome,' and larger garrisons are needed. But it is hoped that with the additional revenues, when the troubles are over, expenses will be no more burdensome than formerly. The investment has not yet suffered much from the troubles, though the sortment here is not as good as it might be. A suitable reduction of price will be made if the merchants will not improve it. The Vizagapatam Council anticipates troubles from the French and the Nawab, but Andrews at Madapollam thinks differently. The Council believes that the French will attempt it. Can promise a full ship in January. Will keep down the merchants'

balances. Captain de Gingins reported, on October 16, that the rains prevented Chunda Sahib and the French from advancing nearer to Trichinopoly. They have erected two batteries which are so distant from the Fort as to appear to be intended only to defend their camp. Stores, etc., sent from Pondichery *via* Karikal have not yet reached them. As the enemy only intended to blockade Trichinopoly, Captain Gingins was ordered to leave the command to Captain Cope with just enough force for its defence and march this way with the rest of our force and the Nawab's horse. Captain Clive writes from Arcot on October 18 that he can maintain the Fort against the enemy and that with the help of the Madras detachment he could even take the offensive. This diversion has prevented Chunda Sahib from collecting rents. Hope to secure some of them if Captain Gingins' detachment and the Nawab's horse come this way. The Vizagapatam Council fears attack, because Jaffar Ali Khan gives out that when he takes leave the new Nawab will request orders to join the French and dispossess the English. Andrews who had lived long to the Northward thinks that this is only a scheme of Jaffar Ali to get a present. But as the Pondichery Council describes Dupleix as the Moghal's Governor and threatens to report our proceedings to the Moghal, believe that the French will, if possible, make the Country Government attack the English. The Faujdar of Ganjam desires the resettlement of the factory there; but as such promises are worth nothing, shall take advantage of this offer to recover the Company's effects and balances there. Have received a further letter said to come from Salabat Jang, but the behaviour of the harkaras who brought it made us suspect it to be the production of Dupleix and Chunda Sahib. It is remarkable that this letter should arrive the same day as Chunda Sahib's answer to Saunders' letter explaining his reasons for supporting Muhammad Ali as the nominee of Nasir Jang and then of Ghazi-ud-din Khan. It is said that Chunda Sahib and others have counterfeit seals of the Moghal and his officers. Proposed to Chunda Sahib that he may hold Arcot leaving Trichinopoly to Muhammad Ali, pending the Moghal's decision. But this was rejected with scorn. The Council considers that Chunda Sahib only serves as a cloak of French ambitions. As their success must ruin the Company's trade, we had to oppose their evil schemes. Salabat Jang's letter advised the English to give up Muhammad Ali, to confine themselves to their settlements and that Ghazi-ud-din Khan has been replaced by himself. John Trenwith has been killed at Arcot. 'We cannot

but with the greatest justice to his merit, mention Mr. Robert Clive one of your covenanted servants, who, when we were under a necessity for officers, voluntarily engaged himself, without any consideration of pay, and has behaved with great courage and conduct.' On the intercession of Eyles and others on behalf of Captain Killpatrick and on the latter's apology for his actions, he has been severely reprimanded and restored to his rank. The St. Mary's Church wardens request the Company to receive on their account 3,568 Pags. at 7% per annum from William Monson. They further request leave for an organ to be sent out. Robert Goodere denies having written the letter ascribed to him by the Pondichery Council. Can get little reliable news from Pondichery. The *Achilles* and the *Rochelle* have sailed thence partly loaded for the Mauritius. The Moors are said to have demanded the return of Masulipatam but the French are still fortifying that place and Divi Island. His Majesty's sloop *Swallow* which is repairing in Bengal will call here for despatches to Europe. Brohier writes separately and sends several plans. The Bengal Council having omitted to send papers regarding the saltpetre and redwood on the *Britannia*, they cannot be included in the Coast invoice. Her Coast cargo amounts to 147,631 Pags.; diamonds, etc., registered, 98,151 Pags., and the Captain's private trade, 6,357 Pags. The cash balance is 4,960 current Pags. and 722 Madras Pags.

Postscript: Bills drawn on the Company for 130 Pags. and certificates, 1,845 Pags.

DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. JANUARY 25, 1752. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 19, *pp.* 25–31 *(Copy* 6½ *pp.) Defective. Also Factory Records, Fort St. David, Vol.* 11, *pp.* 593–599. *(India Office transcript.)*]

Now write by the *Don Carlos* bound for Persia. China shipping news. News from Bengal and Bombay. Tellicherry has been engaged in a troublesome war, but the latest private letters report a cessation of arms. His Majesty's ship *Swallow* is hourly expected. The *Warwick* is being laded [for Europe]. Shall put up the broadcloth to outcry on January 29, 'but as some of the principal marts for that article have been lately plundered by the Marathas, we are apprehensive there will be but few purchasers.' 35,394 taels of gold have been remitted from China with 25,560 oz. [of gold ?]. The investment has exceeded expectations and will amount to near

4,600 bales. The revenues of the new acquisitions have hitherto been collected without difficulty.

Believe Dupleix has been endeavouring the ruin of our Northern factories. Jaffar Ali Khan, Nawab of Rajahmundry, wrote to Westcott and Andrews that Salabat Jang had ordered him to destroy Ingeram and Madapollam, and he begged them to remove their effects. Westcott accordingly withdrew to a small island at the mouth of the river; on this the Moors sent a detachment of horse and foot; but, to the disappointment of the French, they only hauled down the English flag. Have received 300 bales from Westcott and 159 from Andrews. The French are still trying to gain their point, but are so disliked that they will find it difficult. Andrews has withdrawn from Madapollam to Bandarmalanka; the latter is at present better situated for trade, as the French claim an exclusive right to the Madapollam river though the Madapollam factory has not yet been touched.

The War has of late gone more favourably. Clive was besieged in Arcot by the French and Chunda Sahib's son from September 24 to November 14. As Clive had not more than a month's provisions, had to send Captain Killpatrick to relieve him. But before his arrival, the enemy had made two breaches and attempted to storm the Fort. They were beaten off with great loss, and decamped abandoning their cannon the next day, when Killpatrick and 2,000 Maratha horse appeared. On December 3, Clive and the Marathas beat them at Arni, with considerable loss in killed and prisoners. They rallied at Chetpattu, and are now near Covelong, it is said with a design to attack St. Thomé, but, it is believed, are not in a condition to do it. Killpatrick is at Arcot with 230 men; Captain Campbell with 130 Europeans and 500 sepoys [is camped near Madras]. This success 'has raised our reputation with the natives, before sunk too low.'

At Trichinopoly the enemy have been busy assembling stores and cannon, but have hardly begun their approaches, though they have strengthened their camp. There have been several skirmishes in which we have generally had the advantage, in one of them killing a Captain, Lieutenant, Quartermaster, and 21 troopers. The Nawab has now been joined by the Mysore troops and 3,000 Marathas; and the King of Tanjore is expected to declare for him. What is most to be feared is their receiving reinforcements or buying off our allies. Intend to press an engagement as soon as possible; if we are successful, their losses should be so heavy that unless they receive reinforcements

quite disproportioned to ours, we shall be able to stop their schemes. The French continue in possession of Masulipatam, are fortifying Divi Island, and have built two small batteries at the entrance to the Madapollam river. The French grants were mostly made by Muzaffar Jang who was never legally invested with the Government of the Deccan. At present have no forces to spare; but if successful in the Carnatic, will support our claim to Divi Island. Expect a detachment of 200 men from Bengal. Trust that our conduct may meet with approval.

DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. FEBRUARY 15, 1752. RECEIVED SEPTEMBER 17, 1752. [*Factory Records, Fort St. David, Vol.* 11, *pp.* 601—618. (*India Office transcript.*)]

Cite despatch of January 25. Have laded 1,445 bales on the *Warwick* and sent her to Madras to be filled up.

Have sent 1,050 bags of rice to Sumatra. Have received from Bombay 619 barrels of gunpowder sent out from Europe.

Have punished one Govinda Chetti for making debased coins within the Company's bounds, and confiscated the coins. There is much difference in the weights used in the Mint and the Warehouse, due to their more constant use in the former than in the latter. Have ordered the Mint weights to be adjusted with the Warehouse weights twice a year. Apply for a standard set of weights. This year Bombay sent only 727 barrels of gunpowder. The demand being very great, have ordered it to be made locally. Brohier thinks that at least four or five thousand barrels must be kept in stock. At the recent sale, broadcloth secured better prices. The ordinary green would not sell. The shalloons sold tolerably. Bengal wants half their treasure in Madras rupees, a quarter in Arcot rupees and a quarter in bullion. Shall decline the Bengal proposal to put a mint mark on Arcot rupees. Note the great difference in the touch of gold according to the invoice from China and the Mint assays here. Received the amount of Captain Webb's respondentia bond for 4,640 oz. of silver. Allowed him the privilege of tea usually granted to China Captains. Laded on the *Warwick* 300 bags of saltpetre at half-freight and some old guns, etc., freight free.

Have coined 30,000 Madras Pags. from the China gold for the Northern settlements where a good investment is expected in spite of French obstruction. Have contracted with a new merchant at Salem, but the troubles in the country make it difficult

to get cloth. Rice gets damaged for want of proper granaries. Will in future lay in paddy which is less liable to decay.

Chunda Sahib's son with some French left Covelong, plundered and burnt some villages of Poonamallee, and carried off to Pondichery the furniture of houses at the Mount and Marmalong. The French Council repudiates the English claims to these places. Have been unable to check these ravages for want of horse, and have therefore ordered as many as could be got to be entertained on the Nawab's account. The French have again withdrawn beyond Poonamallee, and when the 1,000 horse requested of the Nawab reach Arcot shall be able to keep the French at a distance. All the Mysore and Maratha troops have reached Trichinopoly. The Tanjore King is ready to join them. 'The enemy were intrenched up to their chins; provisions excessively scarce and continually harrassed by the horse.' Captain de Gingins proposes to attack the enemy's rear with half his force. No news from Aurangabad. The French succeeded by presents and promises in obtaining from the Pegu King permission to erect a factory there. They try their very best to exclude the English from Pegu. 'The grandeur of His Most Christian Majesty was displayed with all the tinsell imaginable. Their numerous armies, conduct, valour, and possession of this Coast, were made use of as so many arguments and convincing marks of the power of their nation, but to no purpose. The many years we had trafficked at that port, the justness of our dealings, and the advantages accruing from so extensive a trade, entirely overweighed them.' Pegu is a suitable place for ship-building and produces many commodities vendable on the Coast. Westcott found the present site of the Ingeram factory unsuitable and suggested a new one to be erected at Coringa which is on a river and nearer the sea. But for the present, the proposal has been rejected. Agreed however to the renting of Coringa and Malaram. Andrews will rent Bandarmalanka. Will cultivate friendship with Vijayaram Raz. The French on the strength of Salabat Jang's parwannas seized several towns in the North, but were obliged to quit them. Will send him a small present. The Vizagapatam garrison, which consists of superannuated Europeans and topasses, will be reinforced. An Ensign's command will be sent to Ingeram and Madapollam.

Have erected two small choultries for the washers. On Robins' suggestion, a redoubt has been built at St. Thomé. The cost far exceeds Robins' estimate, but he meant to have completed them in sod works, an idea which he had to abandon before he left. The

materials are good and cheap and workmen regularly paid. The Betel and Tobacco, and the Weighing and Measuring farms have been let out for 3,000 and 400 Pags., respectively, or double the former rent. On the arrival of the King's troops, the Arrack farm was abolished, but it has been impossible to prevent the clandestine sale of liquor to the men. It has therefore been decided to license arrack shops in the principal streets. The farm has been let for 2,000 Pags. a year. This revenue will be raised not from the Military only, but from the Moors, Gentoos, Malabars, sepoys, lascars, and boat people. Will make proper enquiries before permitting any reduction in the revenues of Poonamallee and St. Thomé, lately pillaged by the enemy. 13 covenanted servants have been received this year; 8 have since died or returned to Europe. Are therefore still in need of writers. Fowke proceeded on the *Dragon* and Prince and Smyth King on the *Warwick*. Goodere went to Bengal for his health promising to return in January, but now hear that he is proceeding on the *London*. He owes 8,379 Pags. to the Company and his private accounts are unsettled. We shall attach his money in Henry Powney's hands on the Company's account. According to several complaints, 'he has left his post with the general discontent and murmurs of the whole place.' Norris has returned from China. Matthew Empson died intestate on January 24. Captain Cope was wounded at Trichinopoly and since died. Ensign Rouchead was killed at Tirupasur. Lieutenant Bulkeley was shot at the siege of Conjeveram. Richard Starke succeeds Prince at Madras. Charles Boddam is Export Warehouse-keeper, Commissary and Accountant. Pigot succeeds Goodere and Wynch succeeds Pigot as Storekeeper. Hugh Norris is under the Paymaster *vice* Empson. John Walsh being in bare health is succeeded as Secretary at Fort St. George by Peter St. Paul. Charles Hopkins is to assist at Ingeram in place of Baird, whose imprudence threatened to involve the Company in disputes with the Country powers. He has been transferred to Vizagapatam. Lieutenant Pascall has been promoted Captain *vice* Captain Richards deceased; Lieutenant Maskelyne, Captain Lieutenant *vice* Captain Lieutenant Murray deserted; Lieutenant Campbell, Adjutant at Madras *vice* Bulkeley; and Lieutenant Pigou, Quartermaster *vice* Pascall. Maskelyne will succeed Cope as Captain; Lieutenant Pigou as Captain Lieutenant; and Ensign Cooper as Quartermaster. Solomon Nathan returns home on this ship with 5 discharged military. Coja Shawmier Sultan requests his house to be restored or rent allowed.

In future the Military Paymaster will receive stoppages from the recruits to defray the cost of their clothing.

The Dutch continue averse to interfere in the Carnatic. A French ship has sailed from Pondichery with piece-goods, redwood and pepper. Received a lengthy letter of 146 pp. from Dupleix, dated February 18, N.S. It is a narrative of the Carnatic affairs since the War and designed for the public, in vindication of his conduct and throwing the blame for the troubles upon the English. From the beginning to end, it is full of untruths or exaggerations. 'The author will appear ridiculous by attempting to impose on the world so gross a cheat.' By the hostilities the French daily commit, are convinced that they would drive the English out of India, if only they had the power to do so. Have purchased stores amounting to 952 Pags. at the outcry held by His Majesty's Naval Storekeeper. Granted a certificate for 3,500 Pags. paid in by him.

Supplement: Gold from Harrison, etc., though invoiced to weigh 1465 taels, only weighs 1,464 taels. This is probably due to a difference in computing the taels. Owing to the unsafety of the roads, cannot get the rolls of the military in time for this ship. A registry of diamonds has been opened at Madras, and those registered here amount to 5,931 Pags. The cash balance on hand is 16,454 current Pags. and 27,885 Madras Pags. Troubles in Surat and Tellicherry. Cannot expect any surplus tonnage from hence.

Postscript: The bills drawn on the Company amount to 1,879 Pags.; and the certificates 3,500 Pags.

ABSTRACT OF DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. DAVID. FEBRUARY 24, 1752. RECEIVED DECEMBER 27, 1752. [*Coast and Bay abstracts, Letters received, Vol.* 5, *p.* 340. (*India Office transcript.*)]

The Warwick sailed home from Madras about February 23. The *Swallow* and the *Porto Bello* sloops arrived on February 18. Robert Westgarth goes as Resident at Pegu to secure a grant of the Negrais. Large quantities of copper hoops stolen out of the military godown. The Military Storehouse-keeper's request to write them off is referred to the Company. According to Brohier's advice, desire a regular supply of 400 barrels of gunpowder a year. 'A reinforcemnt of 200 received from Bengal has enabled Captain Clive to march to Tritchanopoly with a detachment of military and seapoys to act with Captain de Gingins.' A letter

received from Salabat Jang by way of Pondichery on February 21. Distrust all letters coming from Pondichery. He has been desired to send his letters by the people belonging to the English. Goodere announced by the *Swallow* his intention of going home from Bengal. Pigot is going to Vizagapatam to settle his accounts. Bills for 3,720 Pags. payable to Goodere; and certificates for 488 Pags. on account of Captain Lewis Tornery's estate.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. AUGUST 23, 1751. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 55, *pp.* 20—42 (*Copy* 23 *pp.*)]

Acknowledge the receipt of despatches dated February 12, September 26, October 24, 1750, and February 7, 1751; also of Robins's letters of September 25, and October 19, 1750, and January 24 and February 6, 1751. The *Elizabeth* lost her passage and did not reach England till May 8. Declare Madras the seat of the Presidency, with all the settlements on the Coromandel Coast and Sumatra subordinate thereto.

Are building 'a ship of force' for the protection of the Malabar trade. She will soon be ready to sail and will be sent out with treasure to Madras. Have taken up 14 ships for the coming season. The present ship, the *Durrington*, brings treasure to be coined with all speed for Bengal. Name the Secret Committee. Half the kintledge of the Coast and Bay ships is to be made up with saltpetre, and as much more is to be laded as will complete their charterparty tonnage. Measures to be concerted with the other settlements for the lading home of as many ships as possible. The Company's intentions of giving a good supply of slaves to the Coast and Sumatra have been defeated by not sending the *Swallow* on a second voyage to Madagascar. Captain Bell's objections were frivolous. He did actually bring 245 slaves; he could easily have brought 150 or 200 on a second trip. Disposal of shipping at Sumatra and elsewhere. If possible suitable cargoes to be provided for the China ships. Approve the orders at Fort St. David against putting freight or respondentia onto French and Dutch ships. Are assured by those conversant with the Country trade that Company's ships, detained in India for lack of cargo home, can be advantageously let out on freight voyages, as merchants consider them safer than Country vessels. Public notice is to be given of any ships that may have to be detained; and they should be let out to Company's servants, Armenians, or other responsible persons, at such rates as will at least cover the demurrage and charges. If this proves

feasible, ships may be detained in India and surplus tonnage (at half-freight) laded on the ships sent home. Freighters do not give proper rates of hire for Company's ships because the Commanders usually fill much of the space with their own private trade; proper methods should be used to keep them within bounds.

Being determined to promote the woollen trade, shall send a full supply this season. Disapprove the delivery of last year's broadcloth to Linga Chetti contrary to the Company's positive orders. All goods are to be sold in the most public manner. Intend a large supply of bullion; as much as possible is to be coined and sent to Bengal, as the debts there should be discharged. Send on this ship £28,084 worth of gold to supply the need of it on the Coast; but the value of this is to be forwarded in rupees to Bengal, whither the full amount of all bullion on this ship is to be sent. Variation in the fineness of rupees coined at Fort St. David; the Assay-Master and Linga Chetti to be informed of this. Information regarding the exchange-rates of gold and silver to be sent home by every ship. The forwarding to the port of consignment of over-carried private silver, coral, etc.

Observe 'with infinite concern' the distracted state of the country and the ill situation of the investment; but have no doubts of the Council's doing its best. As the Northern settlements hold out the best prospect, they should be well supplied with money. Desire that no cloth be sent brown, if it can possibly be avoided. Approve the refusal of further advances to the merchants, as their balances are in general too large, especially for 1749 and 1750. Bengal to supply saltpetre for kintledge and completing cargoes.

Having considered the destructive schemes of the French and the confusion of the country, believe it will be best 'to stand upon your guard and wait the event' without interfering further than is required for the preservation of the Company's rights and privileges. All opportunities should be taken of pointing out to the Country powers the fatal consequences of French success; and all proper means used to disconcert their schemes short of acts of hostility in breach of the Treaty except in self-defence. Will send such forces as will enable the English to act upon the defensive at least. Formal protests to be made against any infringements of the Treaty and authenticated narratives of such to be sent home. Approve the sending of Hopkins to hoist the English flag at Divi Island and the Masulipatam factory, with orders to protest if the flag was insulted. Presents to the Country powers should be as frugal as possible; that to Nasir Jang exceeded reasonable bounds.

William Cockell goes out by this ship as Deputy Governor of Fort St. David and Stringer Lawrence as Commander of the forces. Both are well acquainted with the Company's sentiments on the present situation. Recommend the maintenance of internal harmony. Appoint Saunders, Cockell and Lawrence, or any two of them, a Committee to transact affairs with the Country Governments and European nations so far as their political conduct affects the Company, but without power to disburse money except with the approval of a majority of the Council. Robins, whenever present, is also to sit on the Committee, which shall communicate to the Court of Directors full accounts of its proceedings.

Desire duly attested statements regarding La Mettrie and Barnewall in case they should attempt action against the Company. All encroachments by the Dutch on English possessions or trade must be reported in the fullest and most authentic manner. The utmost endeavours to be made to fulfil the assurances that the new revenues will cover the cost of the necessary garrisons. Approve the system of recording Military and Political deliberations apart. Note with pleasure that Robins was consulted on the events that followed the death of Nasir Jang. Are gratified at the voluntary grant made of Devikottai by the King of Tanjore; but friendship with that Prince should not be allowed to lead to profitless expeditions. As the exactions of the Country Government rendered the Ganjām factory useless, approve the withdrawal of it. Since Saunders became President, affairs have been conducted with great prudence, application and spirit.

Repairs at Madras. Approve Robins's scheme for completing the Fort St. David defences at a cost of £5,000, as also that for completing the defences of Fort St. George. His reasons for proceeding with the works at both places without awaiting the Company's sanction are satisfactory. Also approve his proposal to secure the Black Town at Madras with such an enclosure as to require a siege and so give time for the removal of valuables into the Fort. Agree that this will encourage wealthy men to settle there. Hoped to have received a plan and estimates; but have such confidence in Robins as to permit the work to be begun unless the Committee objects. As the inhabitants will be so directly benefitted they will no doubt contribute to the expense by such means as the Council finds practicable.

There will now be less occasion for commercial buildings and repairs at Fort St. David. But as the expenses of buildings must

even with the greatest economy run high, a Committee is to be appointed to consider with Robins's assistance the best method of providing materials and employing artificers. The Master Carpenters at Mádras and Fort St. David are to receive a monthly allowance instead of providing timber, etc., which in future is to be supplied from the Company's stores. Are convinced that the Paymaster's monopoly of making and supplying bricks must also be against the Company's interests. Robins is to be informed of these orders.

Are convinced that it is impossible to collect the rents of the Company's possessions, and approve their being farmed out, as also the letting of the Madras farms for one year only, as their value will now increase. Cannot grant Shawmier Sultan's request to allow him and his father to continue to reside in the White Town. No Armenians are to be allowed to do so, and those who own houses there are to sell them to European Protestants. The Company considers Armenians very useful people, and they should have all the accommodation that the Black Town can afford. The Danish Missionaries are to be encouraged in propagating the Protestant religion among all residing under English protection. Jaggu, son of Narayanan deceased, has petitioned* the Company to order the restitution of Chintadripet to the heirs of Narayanan and Chinnatambi, together with a village and temple, promising to repay 12,576 Pags. due to the Company on account of Chintadripet, and asking that the Council may assist the trustees of his father's estate to recover the outstanding debts. Direct an inquiry to be made and reported for the Company's orders.

The Presidency is to be removed to Madras as soon as possible. Have appointed by a commission under the Company's seal, dated

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* A copy of the petition forms pp. 184—186 of *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 55. It recites that George Morton Pitt when Governor commissioned Narayanan and the Warehouse conicoply, Chinnatambi, to build the weaving-village of Chintadripet; that Narayanan built a pagoda at his own charges costing 18,700 Pags.; that till Narayanan's death (April 1743), the Company made the trustees advances of 63,720 Pags., of which 51,144 Pags. had been repaid in goods. The revenues of the village (620 Pags. a year) had been settled on the trustees, while revenues to the amount of 1,500 Pags. a year, with a village worth 300 Pags. a year, had been assigned to the temple. Morse when Governor gave the whole management to Chinnatambi, ordering him to pay all the surplus to the Company till the debt was extinguished. Until 1746, he collected 4,000 Pags., but paid in nothing. Since 1749 the Company has held the village assigned to the temple, and Chinnatambi (who recently died) collected the revenues. Prays that Chintadripet may be placed under the joint management of Narayanan's and Chinnatambi's heirs, but that the temple and its revenues be delivered to the petitioner.

August 21, the following Council:—Thomas Saunders, President; William Cockell, Second and Deputy Governor of Fort St. David with succession to the chair; Major William Kinneer, Third and to remain as such; Richard Starke; Joseph Fowke; Charles Boddam; Henry Powney; Robert Goodere; George Pigot; Foss Westcott and Alexander Wynch. Vacancies in the Council are to be filled by the next senior in standing unless there is reason to the contrary. Prince is to be sent home as soon as he has adjusted his accounts with the Company. Whenever at Madras, Lawrence is to have a seat and vote in the Council, sitting on the President's left hand and signing next after the Second, and in the Second's absence he is to sit on the President's right and sign next after him, but he is never to succeed to the chair. A Council of five persons to be appointed for Fort St. David, with Cockell as Deputy Governor and a Second selected from the Councillors named above. When Cockell can be spared from Fort St. David, he should take his seat in Council at Madras. His salary, etc., are to be the same as were paid to the Deputy Governor before the capture of Madras.

Lawrence is appointed Commander-in-Chief of all the Company's forces in India, commanding (subject to the President and Council's orders) in whatever presidency he may chance to be. He is to receive a salary of £500 a year, with £250 a year in lieu of diet-money, servants, horses, etc., beginning from his arrival in India. He will also be allowed all expenses incurred in military operations and in travelling from place to place. His duties are to see that the troops are disciplined and always ready for service, to command in person such part of the forces as may be necessary, and to submit to the Council such plans and explanations as may enable them to decide regarding military operations. He shall be entirely governed by the orders he shall receive in writing from the Company or from the Council, serve the Company to the utmost of his skill, and advise the Council of all that shall occur to him for the Company's advantage.*

William Kinneer, 'an able and experienced officer,' entertained as Major of the Madras troops. To be Third in Council, to have the command and clothing of one company, with a salary of £250 a year with allowances for diet, servants and palankin as Third of Council. He is not to be embarrassed with civil affairs or have

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* A copy of Lawrence's commission forms pp. 172–173 of *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 55.

any additional pay for regulating or commanding the Artillery company. George Patterson, now sent out, is to succeed to the first Ensign's vacancy and meantime to draw Ensign's pay. Send as many recruits as the ship can carry and will send more by each ship. Have contracted for two companies of 140 men each to be raised in the Swiss Protestant cantons; they are to arrive in time to embark on the ships that will sail at the end of November.*

As the Madras Council was fixed before Percival's readmission into the service, it would not be fair to remove one of the Councillors in order to make room for him; but he may be continued in the service and promoted according to his standing if he behaves well. If any one refuses to serve at Fort St. David or elsewhere, he shall be considered to have resigned, obliged to settle his account with the Company, and sent home. Salaries and allowances of covenanted servants are to be on the same scale as before the loss of Madras. The gratuity of £50 a year was granted to Croke for particular services and not as Second of Fort St. David; it should not have been granted to Richard Starke as Second at Fort St. George. Timothy Tullie, writer at Madras, may be allowed (according to his father's request) to reside at Madras so long as that is consistent with his duty. Approve the method taken of late of appointing Committees to inquire into and state facts. Repeat the orders of January 27, 1748, regarding the appointment of a Committee of Treasury to take charge of the cash, bullion, etc., as these have not yet been executed. Disapprove the old system under which the Import Warehouse-keeper had charge of the bullion and rupees. Require an annual statement of the salaries and allowances of all civil and military servants. Send copies of the Act for reforming the Calendar. Require all original papers and information relating to the accounts with His Majesty's Squadrons and forces in India. 10 bonds (all dated earlier than September 1746) for money lent to the Company at Madras may be paid off; they amount to 81,300 Pags. and 39,000 Arcot Rs.

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* Copy of the Company's agreement with Sir Luke Schaub and Jasper Sellon, dated July 17, 1751, forms pp. 174–176 of *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 55. The men to be between 20 and 35, Protestants; the Companies to consist of 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 1 ensign, 6 sergeants, 6 corporals, 1 drum-major, 2 drummers, 1 fife and 120 privates, each; each officer and soldier to contract to serve for 7 years from arrival in India; the Companies to reach Gravesend before November 30, 1751; the captains to receive £7 levy-money for every man raised; the captains to have the clothing of their Companies, for which 2*d.* *per diem* shall be deducted from the pay of each man; bounty of £10 to be paid for re-enlistment for 5 years at the termination of seven years' service; free passage home to be provided at the end of 7 or 12 years, etc.

Permission granted to form another company of Artillery; the officers must be such as Robins considers qualified. Will comply with Robins's indent for light cannon, mortars, etc.

Supplement: The lawyers all agree that the capture of Madras by the French put an end to the Mayor's Court. No attempt to be made to revive it till a new Charter has been obtained. The Court of Quarter Sessions however, consisting of the President and the five senior Members of Council, is deemed still to be in existence. A Sheriff should therefore be appointed and Sessions held. Lawrence's commission in no way reduces the powers granted to Robins. Have taken up 3 more ships, one of which will bring a cargo of slaves from Madagascar to Madras.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. AUGUST 23, 1751. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 55, *p.* 43 *(Original* 1 *p.)*]

The existence of a Roman Catholic Church in the heart of an English settlement is so inconvenient, that the Portuguese Church in the White Town is to be pulled down at once, and not allowed to stand on pretence of giving it to the Danish Missionaries or of its use as a store-house or otherwise.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. NOVEMBER 14, 1751. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 55, *pp.* 44—46 *(Original* 3 *pp.)*]

Now despatch the *Delawar* to carry slaves from Madagascar to the Coast. The Commander Abraham Dominicus, and the Chief Mate, Thomas Winter, appointed agents* for the purchase of 600 slaves or more. They are to receive 20*s.* for every slave delivered, two-thirds to the Commander and one-third to the Mate; but in case either should die before the commission is executed, the Company will decide what may be a fair division. The agents are to deliver to the President, etc., all their slaves, the remains of the cargo sent from England, and copies of their accounts and diaries, to be forwarded with remarks to the Company. The

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* A copy of their instructions occurs at pp. 169–171 of *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 55. One-third of the slaves to be girls and women between 14 and 18; not to remain in Madagascar more than 3 months unless the purchase of slaves has not been completed and the crew is in good health; they are furnished with extracts and copies of papers relating to former voyages; to treat the natives civilly and use the slaves with humanity, but to be watchful against a surprise; and to keep an exact diary and accounts, etc.

Surgeon is to receive 5*s.* a head for each slave delivered if he appears to have taken good care of them. As many slaves as possible are to be sent to Sumatra. If the *Swallow's* Madagascar cargo and a good part of the *Delawar's* should remain undisposed of, the *Delawar* may be sent back to Madagascar if more slaves are needed. They are to be treated with more care than those sent by the *Swallow* who were neglected and suffered in their health. Are convinced that they may be of great use as coffrees or as boatmen, labourers, etc. A Committee to be appointed to consider how best to employ and regulate them. Consider that they should all be lodged together under the care of a trusty person, that the Military should be allowed no intercourse with them, that a reasonable diet and clothing should be fixed for them, and that when sick they should be attended by the Surgeons as the Military are. Send 100 tons of lead by this ship.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. NOVEMBER 22, 1751. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 55, *pp.* 47—49 (*Original* 3 *pp.*)]

Of the ships taken up, 4 are destined for the Coast and China, 7 for the Coast and Bay, and 1 for Madagascar and the Coast. The Coast and China ships are under despatch. The Coast and Bay ships will sail early in January. The *Oxford* (now about to sail) will call at Madeira for 300 pipes of wine, of which 150 are destined for Madras and the rest for Bengal. 20 pipes are allowed on the ship's privilege. The first company of Swiss is commanded by Captain John Chabbert, the second by Captain John Henry Schaub. A detachment is now embarked, and the Commander of the ship has been enjoined to treat both officers and privates with the utmost humanity. A particular inquiry is to be made into his conduct in this respect. The same should be done regarding each party of Swiss sent out.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. DECEMBER 6, 1751. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 55, *pp.* 50—55 (*Original* 6 *pp.*)]

Despatch of shipping. The *Rhoda, Edgecote, Prince of Wales,* and *Drake,* now sail for the Coast and China. The *Protector,* built by the Company for service on the Malabar Coast, will be ready to sail early in January with treasure for Madras. Name the supercargoes for China. Send by these ships for the Coast a large

quantity of treasure, woollen goods, etc. The ships are to be sent on to Canton with the least possible delay. The Coast and Bay ships will call to get the Bengal treasure coined and to land Military and a few consignments—mostly private trade. Arrangements should be made to have rupees ready to put aboard the ships for the Bay so that they may not be long detained. Send 3 cases of English and 1 of Dutch velvet; desire to know which sells best, Have appointed as writers:—George Dolben, John Percival, Claud Russell, Joseph Sommers, and John Smith. Samuel Staveley and Thomas Colefax appointed Chaplains on the Coast. Send further detachments of Swiss. The privates have not yet been allotted to their respective companies; Chabbert and Schaub are to decide this as the detachments arrive with the advice of the Major. The pay of officers and men is exactly the same as that of the other Europeans in the Company's service. Each Captain has the privilege of naming the subalterns in his Company, who are afterwards to succeed according to seniority unless there is reason to the contrary. Enquiry into their treatment on the outward voyage. Need of preserving harmony between the Swiss and other forces; No distinction is to be made between them, and their uniform is to be exactly the same. The barracks are to be extended so as to accommodate the new troops.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., COMMITTEE. EAST INDIA HOUSE. DECEMBER 6, 1751. [*Letter Book, Vol.* 28, *pp.* 260–261. *(India Office transcript.)*]

Hope that arrangements have been made for establishing a settlement on the Negrais. David Hunter, late Deputy Governor of St. Helena, is appointed Chief of this new settlement and sails to Fort Marlborough on the *Exeter*, whence he will proceed to take charge, should a settlement have actually been made. Thomas Combes of the Council at Fort Marlborough, is to be Second in the Negrais, with succession to Hunter. Cannot fix their salaries until the Company knows how the measure has progressed. Meanwhile they are to be maintained at the Company's expense and all due respect paid to him. If necessary a vessel should be sent to carry them from Fort Marlborough to the Negrais. In case of any accident befalling the *Durrington* on which Cockel and Lawrence sail, Saunders is to form a Committee with one or two of his Council and Robins to carry out the orders regarding the Negrais. Measures should be taken to secure the Company's

former possessions and privileges in Pegu, as the Negrais settlement will facilitate trade with that country.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., EAST INDIA HOUSE. DECEMBER 24, 1751. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 55, *pp.* 56–57 (*Original* 2 *pp.*)]

Now despatch the *Protector* (Captain Francis Cheyne), built to defend the trade on the Malabar coast instead of detaining one of the chartered vessels as 'a Commodore ship.' She is to land 100 chests of bullion at Madras and then proceed to Bombay. Under no circumstances is she to take in goods of any sort, so that she may always be ready for action. Her bullion should be coined at once into rupees to replace the bullion on the Coast and Bay ships. Cheyne will lay his instructions before the Council if necessary. He should be furnished with what supplies he needs, and an account of them sent to Bengal.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., EAST INDIA HOUSE. JANUARY 8, 1752. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 55, *pp.* 58—71 (*Original* 14 *pp.*)]

The despatch of shipping. Acknowledge the receipt of despatch dated February 24, 1751. Now despatch the Coast and Bay ships—*Bombay Castle, Admiral Vernon, Chesterfield, Colchester* and *Godolphin,* to be sent on with the utmost expedition. If any of these can be despatched home more quickly by not sending them on to Bengal, they may be detained on the Coast; but in that case their cargoes must be duly forwarded. As the large consignments sent will enable large investments to be made, ships must be returned in the season of their arrival. If any are detained, the impossibility of despatching them must be made very clear to the Company. Believe ships' officers carry out clandestinely large quantities of goods—especially woollens; an exact account of all private trade landed on the Coast is to be taken and sent home; all unlicensed goods are to be confiscated, and half the value (less any law or other charges) shall be given to any person discovering the same. Rate of pay on the Country shipping at Sumatra. Should there be absolute necessity for detaining two ships in India, the *Durrington* and *Bombay Castle* should be chosen. To check the great quantity of private trade carried by Company's ships on Country voyages, no private trade should be put on board till the full charterparty tonnage is laded, where the voyage is on the Company's account.

In order to encourage the woollen trade, have sent more woollens than were indented for; these and all other goods to be sold at public outcry. May detain such part of the bullion now sent as is absolutely required on the Coast. The rupees and pagodas coined at Fort St. David fall short of the proper standard; an enquiry ordered. Complain of continued defects in the store accounts. Comply with indents for stores; but cordage, masts, yards, etc., take up so much space that the Company cannot send as valuable consignments as is desired; country masts and cordage are to be used as largely as possible, and nothing of this sort should be indented for for sale.

Need of a large investment in order to lade home all the ships in India; all sorts of low-priced piece-goods suitable for Europe should be provided. Trust that the death of Muzaffar Jang has facilitated the investment.

Trust that the dissensions among the murderers of Nasir Jang, and the death of Muzaffar Jang, will convince the Country powers that the French seek nothing but their own interests to the ruin of the country. Hope that all advantage has been taken of this check to the French schemes. In case the French still continue their encroachments, regular protests are to be made against them and full reports sent home.

Orders have been given in Holland for the punishment of those responsible for the massacre off Sumatra of the Chinese under English protection; and the Dutch claims are now under discussion between His Britannic Majesty and the States-General.

Nothing further is to be paid the Commissaries who received Madras from the French. Every person taking his passage home on a Company's ship is to pay £12, which the Company will subsequently remit if it sees proper. The 1,000 Pags. presented to Andrews, Captain of the Bombay detachment, on his departure from the Coast, was too large to have been made without the Company's approval. The Troop of horse is so expensive that Lawrence, Kinneer and Robins must certify the utility of those now in service. As Samuel Harrison has gone as supercargo on a Coast and China ship, Council has been able to demand what he owes the Church stock; the Company will also endeavour to recover it, but proper documents must be sent. Those responsible for the late arrival of books, etc., from subordinate settlements must be reported to the Company for punishment. Any papers discovered relating to Morse, etc.'s accounts must be sent home with remarks. Cannot admit that the Company should bear the loss of goods which were

the property of merchants when Madras was taken; the full amounts really due must be recovered from Telisinga Chetti, Muttu Kumarappa Chetti, Sunku Venkatarama Chetti, Ambalattadi Chetti, Gandavidi Venkatarama and Nalla Chetti, as well as any other sums owed to the Company when Madras was captured. The account of His Majesty's stores delivered at Madras by Commodore Lisle has not been received and must be forwarded.

Have resolved that all persons permitted to proceed to India shall give security in £200, and that the masters of servants allowed to go to India shall give their bond for £200, to indemnify the Company against any expense that may be incurred for their support. Free merchants must give security for good conduct for £2,000. Staveley and Colefax, who will sail this season, have received an advance of £50 each. Have transferred Samuel Ardley and William Norris, factors in Sumatra, to the Coast with their original standing—Ardley from April 28 and Norris from September 22, 1749. Have appointed as factors on the Coast:—Josias Dupré, John Browning, James Alexander, John Smith, John Lewin Smith, Andrew Newton, Samuel Tatham, Charles Saunders and Daniel Morse. When Timothy Tullie has served his five years as writer, he is to be ranked next above Josias Dupré, Richard Brickenden and Henry Eustace Johnson, appointed writers last year, but did not sail, are to be ranked next above the writers of this year, who are:—John Smith, John Whitehill, Joseph Sommers, Claud Russell, George Dolben, John Percival, and Thomas Rumbold. These factors and writers sail by the present ships. Disallow pensions granted to Mrs. Graham and Mrs. Mansell, who if in necessitous circumstances must be sent home at the Company's expense. Desire to know the Council's opinion of the age, services, family and circumstances of Captain de Morgan, and why he was granted a pension so large as 25 Pags. a month. The Surgeons are said not to attend properly the sick in hospital and to take the soldiers' pay; in future they are to attend regularly instead of one taking whole charge for a month, and the soldiers are to be stopped no more than what they usually pay for diet. One of Council is periodically to inspect the hospital; the Major is to do the same, and regular hospital returns are to be sent home every year; if ignorant or careless the Surgeons are to be dismissed. The two Swiss companies will be completed to full strength next season. The collection of the Company's Standing Orders is to be completed and a copy sent home.

Sumatra affairs.

Supplement: Approve the confiscation of the houses of those who remained at Madras under the protection of the French, of the resolution that Roman Catholics and Armenians should sell their houses in the White Town, and of the Roman Catholic priests being dispossessed of their Churches at Cuddalore and in and about Fort St. George. The Church at Cuddalore and that in the country near Madras should be given to the Missionaries of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge 'during our pleasure' and they may also be given a donation not exceeding 500 Pags.

John Taylor, who was a Surgeon in Barnett's Squadron, is allowed to proceed to India and may be employed as Surgeon wherever needed. Have lost considerably by the depreciation of silver on the Coast, by which means the shroffs may secure improper profits. Orders to ascertain the real ratio of gold and silver. The French in their contracts value 360 Rs. per 100 Star Pags. thus avoiding loss by any variation. In order to avoid the risk of sending out bullion, bills of exchange may be granted in future to all persons at the rate hitherto allowed to covenanted servants only—7*s.* 8*d.* per pagoda. Have entertained John Cassell as Sergeant Bombardier of the Train. He has been for some years at the Woolwich Academy, and will be useful to Robins. 17 iron guns and 400 shot are laded on the *Chesterfield* instead of the *Drake.*

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1752–1753.

LETTER FROM STRINGER LAWRENCE TO THE COMPANY. TRICHINOPOLY. JUNE 11, 1752. RECEIVED DECEMBER 27, 1752. [*The French in India, Vol. 2, pp. 71—75. (India Office transcript.)*]

Was unable to write from the Cape as he was suffering from a fit of asthma. Does not fear its return in India. Landed at Fort St. David on March 14; and on the 17th marched thence with 400 Europeans and 1,000 sepoys whom 'Clive had just brought from Arcott where the success he had met with had given a surprizing turn to the Nabob's affairs.' Lawrence convoyed stores, etc. Marched unmolested as far as Koyiladi where the French cannonaded from an entrenchment they had thrown up. Lawrence returned their fire, but as they did not advance pushed on. Next day the French drew out their whole force and Lawrence had to engage them in order that his baggage might get safe to camp. In the cannonade the English suffered little; but the French were driven into a hollow way, on which Lawrence drew off his people who were much fatigued with their long march. Joined the camp that night. The enemy lost 300 horse and 'Allum Khan, a man of great interest.' Chunda Sahib was quickly forced to raise the siege and to retire to the Srirangam pagoda. We so effectually blockaded it by seizing all the strongholds round that in less than 2 months, his army of 30,000 men were dispersed or destroyed, and he himself with the French and a few horse and sepoys were in a miserable condition. The Nawab summoned them to surrender. After Chunda Sahib had surrendered to Manoji, the rest surrendered on June 3, on condition that the officers should go to Pondichery on parole never to serve against the Nawab or his allies, and that the soldiers should be kept prisoners till they could be shipped to Europe. 'As the allies could not agree who should keep Chunda, to end the dispute, his head was cut off; and we shall march directly for Arcott, since there is not a man to oppose us.' 'So compleat a victory with so little loss is surprizing, for though the enemy were superiour to us when I arrived, yet we

never could bring them to a general engagement notwithstanding it was so much their interest. The whole business was done in a few sieges and some skirmishing,' so that in taking nearly 1,000 European prisoners, the English had not 50 men killed. Dupleix is proposing peace which the Nawab will accept provided the English are satisfied. 'I am perswaded nothing but the keeping up a good force in India will secure a lasting peace here,' and the Nawab is willing to make over a sufficient tract of country to make good their cost. As soon as the Coast is settled, Lawrence intends to go to Bengal. Much regrets the loss of Robins.

ABSTRACT OF DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. JULY 5, 1752. RECEIVED, DECEMBER 27, 1752. [*Coast and Bay Abstracts, Letters Received, Vol.* 5, *pp.* 340—347. *(India Office transcript.)*]

Cockell, Lawrence, Kinneer, Pattison and Repington arrived by the *Durrington* on March 14. Re-established the Presidency at Fort St. George on April 5.

This goes by the *Swallow* sloop. Speke, her Captain, has been zealous in the Company's affairs and waited in order to bring news of the issue of the struggle on the Coast. Shipping news. Goods for China market are not procurable. 'Silver will answer there near equally to any article purchaseable here.' The *Godolphin* arrived here on June 12 with bullion and rupees, amounting to 199,909 Pags. The *Colchester* struck on a sea reef in passing the roads but is reported undamaged. The *Protector* put in with her spars damaged and when repaired will be despatched to Bombay. Bombay has reported that 'Tellicherry was still engagd against the Prince of Collastria, openly assisted by the French.' Landing of gunpowder consigned by the *Kent*. 'Coffrees so serviceable, the *Swallow*, if the Captain had not remonstrated against it, would have been returned to Madagascar for more. The loss of so many was not from want of care on their parts, but the rainy season and improper physick from black doctors.' 'A ship will be dispatched in September. Cannot say more as to tonnage. Bengal write they cannot advise how many ships they may provide for. Nothing to be expected in aid from Tellicherry.'

Short deliveries on several ships seem due to difference in the weights used. Request a standard set of weights. Forward the Assaymaster's explanation of differences in the rupees. 'Single rupees may differ but care is taken 1,000 do answer the

full weight.' 'Broadcloth.—Little of what sold has from the unsettled stated of the country been taken out of the werehouse. All endeavours shall be usd to dispose of the large consignments of it. Fear part will remain on hand and the price fall. Observe the market hath not ever taken off more than indented for.' Aqua fortis on the *Prince of Wales*, being badly packed, was thrown overboard. Send price current of gold and silver. 'Madras having been the magazine, the few stores at Fort St. David will soon be removed to it.' 'Coral., etc., traders submit whether they should not make returns within the limited time, believing the advantage of the Bengal exchange has drawn sums thither and that others are employed in the country. This requires a check. The manifests and returns shall be examined and particulars sent in September.'

Merchants' balances at Fort St. David have been reduced within the permitted limit. Northern factories have been supplyd to the utmost; a further quantity of Madrass pagodas are procuring for them. Are advisd tolerable investiments will be made there.' 'Some Armenians have imported cloth of the Company's sortment from thence. This has been taken into warehouse and the practice of it forbid on pain of confiscation,' 'The investment will probably this year equal that of last. It is much affected by the War and can't be ascertained in the present unsettled state.' 'Brown cloth.—Necessity only will ever oblige them to send any.'

Brohier has arrived at Madras, and surveyed the works. His report is enclosed. Works at Fort St. David are progressing. 'Materials are purchasd at the first and cheapest rate under Mr. Brohier's inspection. No workmen are paid without his check. A contract made with Mr. Morse before their arrival for furnishing materials is cancelled, but offerd to continue his allowance to oversee the works.' 'Resident at Ingeram has for its security been at some expense, not extraordinary.' 'Vizagapatam sufferd considerably by a storm on the breaking up of the monsoon. Mr. Brohier when at leisure will go and survey. No expense, but what shall be requisite for preserving effects there, shall for the present be incurrd.'

'Barracks.—Being at a loss for them, the hospital usd as such on arrival of the recruits and houses hird in the pettah for the sick. Erecting new barracks will be deferrd till hear how the plan now sent is approvd of.' The Portuguese church has been pulled down. Military officers could have quarters in the square which adjoined that church. 'Danish missionarys after this dispatch shall have

the Church at Viparee and at a proper time be shown the generous indulgence orderd.' Have confiscated the houses of Carvalho, Baillieu, Jeronimo and Melong, who have lived under the French ever since the loss of Madras. 'Farms at Fort St. David in general.—Their rents doubled.' 'Farms at Madrass on the footing as formerly except Beetle and Tobacco. They yield 200 Pags. less. It is esteemd they are well disposd of, the warlike uncertain posture being considerd.' Starke, Wynch and Smith have been appointed to inquire into the damages done by plunder, etc., in the Poonamallee country. The proximity of St. Thomé encourages smuggling. Have prohibited the import of vessels there. 'Fortifications.—Assessing the inhabitants for them, it is submitted, as the place has not recoverd itself, may discourage a resort of merchants and at this season be prejudicial.'

'Messrs. Saunders, Cockell and Lawrence are a Committee for Country government. Mr. Lawrence arriving, marched with a detachment to Trichinopoly, took the comand of the whole Army and is still in the field.' Saunders, Starke and Powney formed the Committee of Treasury. 'Major Kinneer comands in garrison, Mr. Starke, 4th of Council but 2nd on the spot, the Council were of opinion, should rank so, as the Major was appointed always to stand 3rd. Mr. Kinneer judging he should have the superiority of Starke now encloses a letter thereon.' 'Vacancies in Council supplyed by Messrs. Cooke and Smith.' Thomas Cooke is ill and cannot yet proceed to his station as Second at Fort St. David. 'Mr. Prince resigning went home per *Warwick*.' Pigot has gone to Vizagapatam. Pybus is Resident at Devikottai. 'Mr. William Percival accepting the service is made Upper Searcher at the Sea Gate.' 'Messrs. Dupré, Browning and Newton, factors; and Messrs. Brickenden, Sommers, Dolben, Russel and Rumbold, writers, are arrivd and will be employd suitable to their capacitys.' Ardley and Norris will be ordered to Madras. 'Eleven factors ranking this year above the writers sent last is a very particular hardship as their behaviour has been very satisfactory, sober and diligent.' 'Recruits arrivd healthy, and passengers in general allow the Captains have treated them handsomely.' 'Some of the Swiss not arrivd, but Captains Chabbert and Schaub, Lieutenants Wagner, Gaup, D'Beck, and Ensign Provost, are come.' 'Swiss.—Many of them are Catholicks, this the officers were ignorant of. 13 have deserted and expect more will. Recourse had to general courts-martial for preventing it with the greatest humanity.

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Captain Chabbert has protested against infringement of privileges claimd by Swiss in foreign service. These being contrary to orders shall suspend complying therewith till directions are received. They will be usd as the Company's own troops and the Captains fill up vacancys in their companies.' 'Major visits hospital monthly and officer weekly. Sick have wholesome diet, and pay only what usual. The Steward provides it. Doctors not interfering therein, a Counseller shall be added.' 'Artillery companys.—Will endeavour to compleat the two, of the recruits sent them.' 'Mr. Palk hearing of Mr. Swynfen's death and his election to be Chaplain returnd from Bombay and has officiated to general satisfaction. He and Mr. Colefax are appointed to the duty here and Mr. Staveley at Fort St. David.' 'Servants refusing to go to subordinates shall be immediately dismissed.' 'Mr. Starke shall as directed be reduced in salary.' 'Captain Morgan is 74, has served 42 years and got 7 children. He alledges his expences are much superior to his income.' 'Church stock.—Mr. Harrison has settled his account with it.' 'Permission of £12 shall be recovered of each passenger.' 'Captain-Lieutenant Pigou preferrd to a company by Captain Love's shooting himself. Ensign Joseph Edward Cooper to be Captain-Lieutenant; and John Seaton, gunner of Vizagapatam, made Lieutenant of Artillery.' 'Governor, highly sensible of the approval of his conduct, will merit the continuance of it.'

'Mr. Brohier allowed an addition of 25 Pags. a month for a house, etc., for carrying on his branch, for supplying the insufficiency of what paid for his maintenance, and as an encouragement of the great assiduity with which he has so deservingly behaved in his station, agreeable to Mr. Robins' recommendation for not stinting him too much.'

Will continue till May the books of Fort St. David as a Presidency, and the books of Fort St. George as a subordinate factory. 'Mr. Morse's accounts.—Can give no light to them. Madras books coud not be sent in a more regular manner, several accounts from April to September being missing; those in the different employs mustbe very capable of explaining them.' 'China Jesuits' annuity has been demanded. Wait directions for paying interest thereof.' 'Bonds bearing simple interest shall be paid when rupees are provided for the Bay.' 'Standing orders.—Some of the old books missing. Shall collect the rest and the paragraphs intended as such since Madras was lost.'

Sumatra affairs.

'Of the new Charter.—Are concerned the whole [of former judicial power] is not valid, as well as those powers, the Company advise, are still subsisting. Desire the whole Charter may be sent in full force.'

'The *Diana* is the only ship yet arrived at Pondicherry. It is said she brings 60 recruits.' The French 'have for some years provided goods for the Manilha market within the English bounds, and endeavoured to ruin their trade there. A stop has been put to this and the French have been desired to furnish themselves within their own limits.' The Dutch have no ships yet arrived, and the Danes expect 3 this season.

Supplement: 'The *Centaur* arrived from Europe at Pondicherry the 1st instant. By her Captain Cooke wrote the 30th May from Joanna that the *Admiral Vernon* had run ashore at Mayotta and been obliged to throw some guns overboard, but was uncertain of the damages received and expected to be at St. David in 10 days after his letter. Have no account of the other ship. It is reported this ship has brought the French a good many men. Are uncertain of the number.' 'Mr. Kinneer.—£100 per annum will be deducted from his appointments to be paid half-yearly for the use of his family in England agreeable to the promise he says was made him there.' Bills drawn on the Company for 208 Pags., and certificates for 787 Pags.

[SEPARATE] DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. JULY 5, 1752. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 19, *pp.* 32—38. (*Copy* 6½ *pp.*) *Damaged. Also The French in India, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 63—71. *(India Office transcript.)*]

Have tried various methods in vain to get letters conveyed to Salabat Jang; and have only received letters from him *via* Pondichery. According to the best accounts from Aurangabad Ghazi-ud-din is hostile to the French; Salabat Jang was for some time engaged in a war with the Marathas, but made peace, returned to Aurangabad, and then moved to Golconda; on the march his Diwan Ramadas Pantulu, the greatest enemy of the English, was killed 'in a dispute that arose between him and the leading men.'

When Dupleix perceived Chunda Sahib's cause declining, he wrote urgently to the Deccan for help; 'the French Subadar' with some horse and 60 Europeans with officers were sent, but stopped by the Nawabs of Cuddapah and Kurnool. Only 2 officers and their baggage have reached Pulicat.

The French have failed to secure the destruction of our Northern factories. Jaffar Ali has returned as Nawab of Rajahmundry, and, though at first he said he had orders to demolish them, he has since written to Westcott and Saunders that he is ordered to restore us to our old privileges. The French still hold Masulipatam, etc., and continue their fortifications.

In the Carnatic the enemy were trying to ravage our districts. After the reinforcement arrived from Bengal, Clive, who was at Madras, took the field with all the forces he could collect, and found the enemy entrenched at Vandalur about 15 miles out. They decamped at night and moved hastily to Kaveripak whence they hoped to surprize Arcot. An engagement followed in which most of their Europeans were killed or taken, and all their cannon and baggage were captured. At this time de Gingens wrote that with the addition of Clive's force he should be able to defeat the enemy at Trichinopoly. Clive was ordered at once to march thither; he went by Fort St. David; and, while he was replacing his military stores there, Lawrence arrived from Europe on the *Durrington*, took command of the troops, and on March 18 set out for Trichinopoly. When he was nearly there, the enemy came out to meet him but were forced to retire. Next day Chunda Sahib, being distressed for provisions, retreated across the Cauveri into the island of Srirangam without losing a man or a gun. After a time we captured his outposts, and he was blockaded in the island. d'Auteuil, who was coming with a strong escort of money and stores, was driven back to Uttatur and then to Valikondapuram, where he was defeated by Clive and the convoy captured. This reduced Chunda Sahib to great straits. Fearing Srirangam would be taken, he attempted flight, having, it is said, received encouragement from the Tanjore leader; but he was seized when passing the sentries. The next day a dispute arose as to who should have the custody of him, and, agreement being impossible, the Tanjore general had him beheaded. His head was afterwards exposed in the camp. The French say that the Tanjore leader had promised to help his escape and to do him no harm. After this the Nawab summoned Law to surrender, which at last he did, with the request that his officers, and volunteers might be sent to Pondichery, and that the soldiers should be kept at Fort St. David and Madras, to avoid the ill-treatment which they feared at Trichinopoly, binding himself to replace all who should desert on the way.

Unhappily this great success has not settled the affairs of the province. The King of Mysore sent troops, brought with him the

Marathas, and supplied the Nawab with money; but at the time the terms on which he did this were not known. Lawrence had been ordered, in case of success, to march on Gingee; but when he proposed to do so, the Mysoreans and Marathas refused to join him till the Nawab had complied with his promise of giving up Trichinopoly to the King of Mysore. Several days were spent discussing this matter, but the utmost the King of Mysore could be brought to was to offer to accept the English guarantee for the surrender of Trichinopoly as soon as the Nawab was settled in his Government. The Nawab admits he has no right to give away such large countries; and the English are allied with the Sarkar to protect it, and cannot appear in such a transaction. Moreover Mysore is the Nawab's sole support, and, should that state and the Marathas join the French, the Nawab would be in a dangerous situation. Dupleix is doing his best to foment these dissensions. Saunders has written to the King of Mysore, begging him to drop this dispute for the present and promising him the friendship of the English to assist in settling the matter later on.

Dupleix is much chagrined at his defeat after so much boasting. He quarrels with his relations; has confined Law; and troubles us constantly with depositions of his officers. After the news of the victory had reached Fort St. David, Dupleix wrote that he had just received a letter from Salabat Jang empowering him to make peace. He proposes as a basis that Muhammad Ali shall have Trichinopoly. Believe this is only intended to gain time as Dupleix declares he will not make peace unless the Nawab surrenders his prisoners; and this is plainly impossible. They are the Nawab's, and are only in the English settlements at Law's special request. Peace on a firm basis is very desirable for the revival of trade; and moreover 'these people' [the Indians] have no principles, have learnt much of the art of war, and are accumulating military stores, so that they may come to annoy us. But as a basis for peace, must insist on the Nawab enjoying his Government just as formerly, the Kings of Mysore and Tanjore must be included, and the French must give up those places which threaten us—the Nawab may grant them others if he pleases—, and the prisoners may be released on condition of not serving again against the Nawab. But these terms, reasonable as they are, are not likely to be accepted unless the Nawab can send his army into this province and the French receive no considerable reinforcements. But should peace be made, the French will be able to employ their

forces elsewhere—at Masulipatam, Divi Island and Tellicherry. In any case considerable reinforcements are desired. Have not yet been at the expense of presents, and will continue the troop of horse no longer than necessary.

ABSTRACT OF DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. NOVEMBER 3, 1752. RECEIVED AUGUST 21, 1753. [*Coast and Bay Abstracts, Letters Received, Vol.* 5, *pp.* 373—377. *(India Office transcript.)*]

Acknowledge the receipt of despatches of August 23, December [November?] 14 and 22, 1751, and January 8, 1752. Cite despatches of July 5 and 12 [?] 1752. This is designed by the *Colchester*.

The Bay and Sumatra shipping. 'Bengal have not advised the tonnage they may provide for. Expect two or three ships must stay and that they will send a ship for filling up with the surplus pepper at Fort Marlbrō. *Wager* and *Hector* having been sent from the other Coast, no assistance is to be thence hoped for.'

'Slaves.—216 received per *Delawar*, 142 males, 74 females. The men being of infinite service especially in the Train are to be disciplind; and the women sent to the West Coast.' 'Silver, coral, etc., account, for which returns have not been made in full within limited time, enclosd. Reasons have been given for the delay to most of the articles. What are unanswerd have no claimants. Submit that the manifest express the consigner and consignee, that the traders be obliged to observe their contract and not employ the produce in India, it being apprehended they give orders for it and paying sums into cash at Bengal. This lucrative branch carryed on by the English only is almost ruind by the ignorance and inexperience of so many sent out for engaging in it.'

'Lead and iron sold this year beyond expectation and believe an encouraging price will continue.' 'Broadcloth on hand sold at outcry according to prescribed directions. It is uncertain when it will be cleard. A large quantity of former sales remaining in the place, indent cant be enlargd, prices being already much fallen and likely to continue so.' 'Velvets are only demanded for Europeans and a small quantity for presents. One sort will answer as well as another. The greatest part receivd this season lye unsold.' 'Treasure more than designd has been shippd for the Bay, gold excepted. Payment of bonds and fortification charges drawing so much cash, they could not do without that and hope to stand excusd for not exposing themselves to necessity.'

'Rice so scarce in Bengal last January, its exportation was prohibited, and, continuing so in September, none has been imported here, so that for preventing calamitys of inhabitants, orderd no grain to be carryed out of the bounds.' The excess saltpetre from Bengal will be used up in the Powder mills. 'Indents enclosd. It is especially desird that for military stores may be complyd with to prevent the worst of consequences. Price current of gold and silver with Assaymaster's musters also sent.'

'Investment has not been greatly affected by the troubles; yet fearful of it since the Morattas joynd the Nabob who plunder, etc., both friend and foe; but they had prevaild on him not to introduce them into these parts at present in peace.' 'Northern factorys quiet and succeed; have been under inconceivable difficultys for supplying them with gold. It is desired their request for gold from China may be considerd of.' 'Fine goods merchants have been abated for some inferior to muster, the only measure to be pursu'd during the troubles.'

'Renters of Poonamalee and St. Thomé.—The best terms possible shall be made for the losses they sustaind as advisd per *Swallow*, as the Committee for enquiring into them could not make any exact calculation. The troubles keep people from engaging in rents. It was with difficulty the former farmers of Poonamalee agreed on last year's terms.'

'Fortification.—Little has been added to them, as the place itself was in so ruinous a condition. Those at St. David advance as fast as possible. Refer to Brohier's letter hereupon.' 'Mr. Moore dissatisfyed with his salary as overseer of the workmen has resigned.' 'Devecotah is an old country fortification Putting it into tolerable order would take up time and a great expence, so that only the absolutely necessary repairs will be given it.' 'Rent of 1,200 Pags. per annum for Madrass has on application for it been taken off by the Nabob.' 'Repairs to the Garden House and offices at St. David formerly made there by Mr. Burton. He has desird 471 Pags. on that account. It appears Mr. Burton did lay out a considerable sum there which it is the general opinion he had not been reimbursd. Directions desird hereupon.' 'Captain Chabbert's health being greatly affected, he has desird to resign and return.' 'Major Kinneer died 9th ultimo. Lieutenant Cooper was killed at Covelon 16th September; and Ensign Lewis dyd at Vizagapatam 9th July.' 'William Lefevre, writer, dyed 21st

August, Chaplain Colefax the 26th and Samuel Tat[h]em, factor, 11th October.' 'Surat and Tellicherry are in peace.' 'Military promotions.—Ensigns Smith and Spears to Lieutenancys; and Joseph Edward Cooper to the same; Lieutenant Gaup appointed Captain in Captain Chabbert's room; Second Lieutenant Wagner, First; and Ensign Heydegger, Second Lieutenant; also Voluntier Lullin made an Ensign.' 'Swiss that were in action have behaved very gallantly.' 'Danish missionaries have been paid 500 Pags. and the Romish Church at Viparee given them.' 'Jaggoo paying annually 2,000 Pags. of his debt is permitted till the Court's pleasure is known to receive a custom to a pagoda formerly built by his father and to whom the same was paid.' 'Mr. Cooke being recovered is gone to his station at St. David.' Bourchier has succeeded Cockell in Council, subject to the Company's orders. 'Officers to two new companys will be appointed at Major Lawrence's instance.' 'Sepoys—their number at the Presidency fixed at 600, at Fort St. David 600, and at Devecotah 100. The excess the Nabob must pay for. Coffrees in the Train and Military have an uniform. They shall have a monthly allowance for diet which will be the cheapest and most satisfactory to them.' 'Swiss Companys must be annually recruited. These troops enjoy the same privileges as in other services and are tryd by their officers to prevent uneasiness and on Major Lawrence's intimations.' Have appointed some assistants for the Hospital. More medicines are required. 'Horse.—Some discharged, few remain. Shall be reducd if possible.'

'Bonds.—Purpose paying them off in January, hoping the exchange now so low as 390 Rs. may then rise'. The exchange is fixed at *7s. 8d.* a pagoda. Robert Goodere owes the Company 3,338 Pags. which sum 'is attachd in his attorney's hands.'

Sumatra affairs: 'Six French ships arrivd, besides what remaind. 3 have been despatched to the Islands with piece-goods, etc. Cant say how many will go for Europe, but most are expected to return here with Military and Coffrees. A later ship is still expected from Europe.' 'Metchlepatam.—It is not found the Dutch make any pretensions to it but remain inactive.'

'Danes have three ships this season, two of them men-of-war with 300 recruits.'

Postcript: Bills on the Company for 1,897 Pags.; and certificates for 1,013 Pags.

[SEPARATE] DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. NOVEMBER 3, 1752. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 19, *pp.* 38—46 *(Copy* 9 *pp.) Damaged. Also The French in India, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 75—86. *(India Office transcript.)*]

News from Aurangabad that Ghazi-ud-din with a sannad from the Moghal has reached Aurangabad with his ally Nana, Sahu Raja's General, and that Salabat Jang and the French are preparing to attack him. The Nana has sent Vakils here and to Bombay, desiring us to continue our assistance to Muhammad Ali and to send troops to Ghazi-ud-din. A small force cannot be sent from here, as Salabat Jang's army lies in between; so Bourchier was desired to do so from Bombay (the letter is entered 'in our private correspondence'). Muhammad Ali's position depends largely on what happens in the Deccan. The French have sent all the troops they could spare to Salabat Jang; the advantage of a Train and European troops has often been evident; and Ghazi-ud-din has neither though he has a large army. Should the two come to terms, Salabat Jang would of course support his allies.

The dispute between the Nawab and the King of Mysore continues. The latter has sent a Vakil to Madras with offers to support the Nawab if the English will guarantee the cession of Trichinopoly; but the Nawab declares he has no power to execute his promise, which was made only out of dire necessity. Received a letter purporting to come from Salabat Jang, desiring the English to support Muhammad Ali and denying the latter's right to cede Trichinopoly. As the matter is intricate, have answered the King of Mysore that we are 'merchants, allies of the Circar and not principals', that we cannot interfere in matters of this nature, but are willing to act as mediators. There is no doubt of the Nawab's having made the promise, but both he and the King must have known that he could not fulfil it. The King is immensely rich, and the acquisition of Trichinopoly would lead to his conquering Tanjore and becoming over-powerful.

If the march of the army had not been delayed by this business, the whole of the province would have submitted. At last the army moved to Uttatur and then to Valikondapuram. There however Lawrence heard that the Marathas were meaning to detain the Nawab; so he returned to Trichinopoly; and, after two days, when matters seemed settled, he and the Nawab rejoined the army leaving a garrison to defend Trichinopoly.

After the capture of Tiruviti, Lawrence fell sick, and Major Kinneer took the command after a delay which enabled the enemy to raise more sepoys. Meanwhile they also received reinforcements from Europe. The English design was to capture Gingee, but, on appearing before it after capturing Villupuram, Kinneer found it too strong to be attempted with the troops he had. In his return he found the French strongly encamped at Vikravandi. Kinneer attacked, but, in spite of his superior numbers, the position was too strong to be forced, and Kinneer was wounded in the leg. The enemy's loss was much greater than ours.

Kinneer having retired into garrison, the command was held by Captain Clarke until Lawrence again took the field. The enemy having camped at Bahur, the Nawab's Army moved from Tiruviti, on which the French withdrew by night towards Pondichery. We advanced; there were a few skirmishes and some villages were burnt; but as an engagement could not be forced, we withdrew to Bahur. The enemy, perceiving their country had suffered by their retirement, then advanced and camped in sight of us. Lawrence attacked them early in the morning; and three-quarters of the enemy were killed or taken with all their baggage and cannon.

The Nawab then desiring Covelong and Chingleput tobe reduced, Clive was sent with some new recruits and sepoys. Covelong surrendered as soon as a battery had been erected; and a party advancing from Chingleput to relieve it was defeated with the loss of some prisoners. Clive was then reinforced from the Army, and marched against Chingleput, which is a strong place almost surrounded by a morass and defended by a double stone-wall and a ditch. As soon as heavy guns could be brought up, the attack was begun, a breach was made, and the garrison surrendered on condition of being released on parole. Meanwhile the grand Army had moved northward in order to cover these operations and to reduce Chetpattu and Wandiwash. The Army marched from Tiruviti and appeared before the latter; the Killedar then agreed to pay 3 lakhs of rupees. The Nawab was very anxious for the reduction of the other place; but though it was reported weakly held, Lawrence declined to attack it and returned to Tiruviti.

In regard to the parts borne by the English and French, Chunda Sahib was only Nawab of these parts by order of Muzaffar Jang and Salabat Jang, whereas Muhammad Ali was appointed by Nasir Jang and has been confirmed by Ghazi-ud-din and even by Salabat Jang. Both sides have acted only as allies, and prisoners (as at

Trichinopoly), have surrendered to the principals. The Trichinopoly prisoners however were sent at Law's request to Fort St. David to avoid the ill-treatment expected from the Moors. Dupleix then demanded their return, as the nations were at peace and we could not hold prisoners under our colours. We replied that we had no prisoners of our own, although the Nawab had committed some of his to our custody at the particular request of M. Law. On this Dupleix seized a company of Swiss on their way by boat to Fort St. David. The correspondence shows that both sides have acted as allies only. The French have often broken their paroles, we have not. We have done our best to save French prisoners, as they fight under compulsion from Dupleix; but since this we have not interfered; the Nawab disposes of his prisoners, and 'officers and men vent their spleen on Mr. Dupleix.' The seizure of Masulipatam and Divi Island was an actual breach of Treaty. Our colours were pulled down at Kumbakonam. Dupleix wrote that our colours at Trichinopoly should not protect us from attack. At Arcot British troops under the King's colours were besieged, and the French flew their flag on the battery. The houses at the Mount were plundered by the French and Chunda Sahib's people, though lying within our district of St. Thomé, and the spoils were carried to Pondichery. Yet Dupleix has the effrontery to complain of breaches of Treaty when the Nawab takes Tiruviti, Villupuram, etc.; whereas we have never violated the French Bounds and have prevented the Nawab from doing so. Sometimes Dupleix figures as Chunda Sahib's ally, sometimes as Nawab of the country from Cape Comorin to the Kistna. Our reply is that the Treaty does not preclude the English from alliance with Muhammad Ali.

Our efforts for peace have come to nothing. The Nawab sent his Vakil to Dupleix, who haughtily answered that he would not treat until the prisoners were given up. The Nawab would have given the French countries as valuable as those they were possessed of (worth five or six lakhs of rupees a year) so that they would not have suffered by Chunda Sahib's defeat. The refusal of these terms proves that Dupleix will be satisfied with nothing less than the whole of his 'scheme.' Doubt whether he has communicated our letters to his Council; but we always address the Councill. The importance of what may happen at Aurangabad. Shall do our best to hinder an alliance between the French and Ghazi-ud-din. In the south Dupleix is negotiating with the Mysoreans and the Marathas. The French forces (excluding prisoners and the

Deccan detachment) are much inferior to ours, but they are still expecting a ship with 300 men, and are drafting men and coffrees from the Islands. Desire therefore recruits and stores. Regret Lawrence's dissatisfaction. All decisions are arrived at in Council and are communicated to him in the gentlest terms.

ABSTRACT OF DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. FEBRUARY 12, 1753. RECEIVED AUGUST 21, 1753. [*Coast and Bay Abstracts, Letters Received, Vol.* 5, *pp.* 380–381. *(India Office transcript.)*]

'The accompanying was intended per *Colchester*. She had on board 1,545 bales 31st October, when a violent storm happend which drove her, the *Delawar* and *Brilliant* out of the road. The former got to St. David dismasted and damaged; the *Delawar* to Gallee in the same condition; and having no account of the *Brilliant*, that was to have saild next day for the West Coast, are of opinion she is gone there.' Other shipping news.

'Gauzedee Cawn poisond at Aurangabad by Salabat Jing's mother. The Nana encamping near the latter's army, who after a trifling skirmish accommodated affairs, giving the Moratta some countrys promisd by Gauzedee, whose son and Salabat Jing are competitors for the Decan government. It is reported the latter will have it. The French disappointed in drawing Salabat's army into the province and in their desire for a sanned for the province. He is marching to Aurangabad with the French. The Nana on this side the Kistna will settle this province, where the Morattas may in time establish their own government. Shall endeavour to improve the friendship subsisting with the Nana and prevent the French gaining his interest.' 'The army at Trivady, were of opinion, should be kept in the field. Mr. Lawrence differed in it. And many difficulties being started, were obligd to order the troops into garrison. Sixteen days after, as apprehended, the enemy took the field. Mr. Lawrence then thought it necessary the English should do the same. The Nabab's army is at Trivady; the French and Morattas within 6 miles of them; the enemy inferior in Europeans but greatly superior in Moratta horse; to supply that shall endeavour to engage the King of Tanjore in the Nabob's interest.' 'A detachment at Tritchanopoly cut to pieces by the enemy.' 'Saudet Bunder being of great disservice to the Nabab he orderd it to be razed.' 'Captain Schaub and his company still at Pondicherry. Swiss at Bengal deserting are orderd hither on

the *Godolphin.*' 'Major Kinneer dead, Captain Clive taking passage on the *Admiral Vernon* and Captain Gingins on another ship, Mr. Lawrence the only commanding officer they have.' 'Troubles will continue. A division in Nizam's family, the Morattas will make advantage of it. It is impossible to fix on a plan. Peace on good terms most advantageous, which the French will not come into but on conditions to the ruin of the English settlements. Their forces if joind to those at Aurangabad greatly superior. They plunder the country and prevent the Nabob collecting the revenues. Requested supplys of men and warlike stores absolutely necessary for preserving the settlements and trade.'

ABSTRACT OF DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. FEBRUARY 21, 1753. RECEIVED AUGUST 21, 1753. [*Coast and Bay Abstracts, Letters Received, Vol.* 5, *pp.* 381—385. *(India Office transcript.)*]

'*Colchester* dismasted and shatterd by the storm put into St. David. Captain Mainwaring immediately went thither and being assisted to the utmost hoped to have return'd her; but he and his officers on a survey thought it unsafe till her bottom was examined.' The *Admiral Vernon* is proceeding to Fort St. David to take in the *Colchester's* cargo.

The *Delawar* laded for Sumatra was ordered thither from Galle. Purchased the *Yorkshire Grey*, 300 tons, for 10,000 Pags. for the Sumatra service, as the *Brilliant* is believed to have been lost. China, etc., shipping. Purchased the *Dragon* sloop, 20 tons, for 300 Pags. for Coast service. The *Fortune* sloop was purchased for Pegu service. Shall dispose of the *Arcot* snow which has been condemned. 'Unseasonable and late dispatches remarked, *Colchester* not arriving till 13th October and *Admiral Vernon* only 7th instant.'

'Gunpowder promisd from Bombay will be very acceptable.' 'Baftaes from Bengal damaged sold at outcry.' 'Gold.—Labour under great difficulties on the want of it for Northern settlements and current expences.'

'Vizagapatam cloth re-sorted found good. Hope it will give satisfaction.' 'Ingeram cloth, most low numbers, some has been rejected. Resident is strictly orderd to keep up to a good sortment.' 'Investment, considering the troubles, cant be complaind of. *Admiral Vernon, Chesterfield* and *Godolphin* will, it is hopd, have their tonnage and some few bales left. Morattas surrounding St. David,

will try to get their cloth to Devecotah and thence to St. David by sea.'

'Northern factorys unmolested. Vizaram Rauze managing those countrys particularly regards the English.'

'Repairs of the very great damages by the late storm ordered.' 'Powder house.—Egmore Redoubt being proper and not requiring great expences will be converted into one.' 'Church at Viparee.—On delivering it to the Danish Mission, Coja Petrus remonstrated and protested.' 'Fortifications at St. David impeded by the Morattas, the surmounting that difficulty enforced. Works here in hand. No pains shall be spard to supply the weakness of the Town to the westward with expedition. Refer to Mr. Brohier on this point. The sea has gaind so of late years that in the N.E. monsoon it washes the walls.' 'Revenues fixt.—Collected as usual. Accountant's report thereof shows their encrease.'

'Chaplain.—Mr. Palk succeeds as such on Mr. Colefax's death as per orders and is thankful.' 'Court of Enquiry held on Captain Gingin's complaint of being aspersed by Lieutenant De Mare. Military Regulations requiring Commandant and 2 Captains being of the Council, their examinations sent to Major Lawrence. In the meantime Mr. De Mare, thinking great prejudice appeared in the affair resigned.' 'Major Kinneer, a brave officer losing his life in the service, his large family that must be exposed to want are recommended.' 'Mr. Orme, formerly in the service at Bengal, Captains Clive and Chabbert take passage on this ship.' 'Captain Clive they must mention to have had a great share in the several campaigns. Refer to Private Proceedings thereon. Are concernd his health obliges him to return.' 'Servants on the Coast, it is requested, may with the Board's leave go to sea, receiving no pay during absence. It would advance their fortunes, give them a general knowledge of India, be of great service in conducting affairs of consequence they may hereafter be entrusted with, and enable their superiors to trade to profit by persons well educated, having a nicer sense of honour and honesty than those sometimes met with. An inducement hereto is the hardships young servants suffer on first coming out by their evident scanty allowances.' 'Mr. Pybus on account of a bad state of health is recalled to the Presidency and Mr. Hopkins succeeds him as Chief of Devacotah; and Mr. Calland the latter at Ingeram. Mr. John Lewin Smith is appointed Third at Vizagapatam.' 'Captain[s] to the two new companies, if not supplied with such by the expected ships,

commissions will be given for them to the next in rank.' 'Military promotions.—Ensigns Harrison, Trusler, Bilhock, Symmonds, Moinichen, Davis, Wilkey, Morrice, Monro and Patterson to Lieutenancys; and Ensign's commissions, to voluntiers Crow, Harrison, Fisher, Clack, Preston, Nelson, Sommers, de Monchanin, Melotte, Greene and Smith. Mr. Repington made Lieutenant of the Troop of Horse, and Mr. Paccard Ensign in the Bengal detachment.' 'John Smith, writer, died 24th ultimo.'

'Deposit of Arcot Rs. 30,000 at 6 per cent for charitable uses made by the executors of Mr. de Medeiros.' 'China mission have applyd for annual interest on their bond of Pags. 20,000, not paid since loss of Madrass. Shall wait directions.'

Sumatra affairs: 'Court of Equity it is requested may be obtained, being under great inconveniencys for want of it.'

Diamonds registered amount to 158,239 Pags. The cash balance is 27,725 current Pags. and 10,005 Madras Pags.

Supplement: The *Success* sloop which was feared to be lost has safely reached the Straits of Malacca. Bills and certificates for 4,460 Pags. and 184 Pags., respectively.

[SEPARATE] DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. FEBRUARY 21, 1753. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 19. *pp.* 47—52 (*Copy* 5½ *pp.*) *Damaged. Also Coast and Bay Abstracts, Letters Received, Vol.* 5, *pp.* 385-386. (*India Office transcript.*)]

As soon as Ghazi-ud-din reached Aurangabad, he was poisoned by Salabat Jang's mother; but the Nana continued his march and camped near Salabat Jang. After a skirmish, peace was made by ceding to the Marathas the provinces promised them by Ghazi-ud-din. The latter's son is said to have been appointed in his father's stead; and as several nobles are displeased at the great concessions to the Marathas and the heavy expense of the French troops, whose intentions they seem to suspect, the troubles are likely to continue. The French made great efforts to induce Salabat Jang to march into the Carnatic, but a general murmuring arose, and he has marched towards Aurangabad. The French then tried to get a sanad for the Arcot Province, but failed. The Nana then marched in this direction. He writes that he will either come in person or send some one to settle affairs here. He professes friendship for the Nawab and us; but the Country Governments are very liable to change.

The Mysore King and Morari Rao have joined the French. The former is resolved to get Trichinopoly, where we have lost 70 men and 2 officers in an action. The French and Morari Rao are camped on the Pennar about 6 miles from the Nawab's army at Tiruviti. They are weak in Europeans and we in cavalry; but we think it best to run no risks. See no likelihood of peace, owing to the dissensions in the Nizam's family and the French persistency in their designs. They expect a large reinforcement from Europe, and are collecting men from the Islands and their other settlements. Hope for recruits and stores, as the safety of the Company's trade and settlements depends on their coming.

Taylor and Westgarth write that the King of Pegu has granted the former privileges and a factory at Syrian (where the English flag has been hoisted), but dissuades them from a settlement at the Negrais on the ground of its unhealthiness; he promises however that we shall have it in preference to any other European nation. Have ordered them to point out to him the dangers to large vessels in entering 'the Pegu river' and to press for a grant of the Negrais.

Mention Lawrence's 'uneasiness' and refer for details to 'our private correspondence.' As the post of Commander-in-chief in India and Major of Fort St. George is important, and as after Lawrence's departure it may be held by a man of different sentiments, desire to know the precise meaning of the Company's regulation regarding military appointments. It says that the Major shall recommend for approval by the Governor and Council and that no officer shall be superseded without good cause. Suppose that the right of recommending does not imply the right of absolute appointment. Sometimes there may be an officer of special merit; but as a general rule promotions out of the ordinary result from prejudice or private interest. Consider that innovations of this sort would discourage all the officers. The question of Major Kinneer's rank in Council at Fort St. David. The members of subordinate Councils are usually below the rank of the Third-in-Council at Madras; but that should not give the Major a right to manage Company's affairs of which he may know nothing; and yet this has been hinted at. By the existing orders the Commander-in-chief sits as Third-in-Council at Madras and debates military affairs. This is very necessary, for the civilian members neither have nor claim special military knowledge. However their experience entitles them to an opinion. It would be very disastrous

in a country, where officers are not easily replaced, to have an officer refuse to obey the orders of the Council. In Europe it is usual for soldiers' pay to pass through the hands of the company Captains. Do not believe there is any abuse in the payments now; but 'all men are not of the same complexion'; and abuses would be more difficult if each soldier received his pay at the pay table. It would be well also if each subaltern, on being promoted to the rank of Captain, contracted to serve for five years, and similarly with officers sent from Europe. A Swiss Captain, Chabbert, recently arrived, sold his company to his Lieutenant Gaupp. Desire explicit orders on these points, so that there may be no room for doubt or disobedience.

Postscript: Have already reported that the Nawab ordered the fort at Covelong to be razed. When it was being done, Father Angelo de St. Gertrude, wrote, styling himself the imperial resident at Covelong, and laying claim to the fort, on the pretext that the ground had been granted to the Emperor. It was replied that this was the Nawab's affair and that we could not interfere.

ABSTRACT OF DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. MARCH 21, 1753. RECEIVED OCTOBER 9, 1753. [*Coast and Bay Abstracts, Letters Received, Vol.* 5, *pp.* 389—391. (*India Office transcript*).]

This goes by the *Bombay Castle*. Arrivals of the *Godolphin, Chesterfield, Pelham* and *Porto Bello*. Other shipping news. Submit Captain Browne's claim for demurrage. Have laden on her on half-freight 600 bags of saltpetre. Received 4,233 bags of rice from Bengal. Its scarcity is due to 'black merchants' roguery.' Received 98 chests of gunpowder by the *Chesterfield*. Indents of the Assay Master have not been complyed with and the medicines sent are not proportioned to their numerous garrisons.' 'Captain Chabbert on his embarking on the *Admiral Vernon* wrote an insolent letter . . . There was no necessity for his asking to go on a French ship, there being four designd from hence. His so strenuously persisting to go to Pondicherry appeared odd after Mr. Dupleix had seized and still detains a company of Swiss as prisoners contrary to Treaty and the Law of Nations.' 'Swiss forces under Captain Polier came on the *Godolphin*. They are proceeding to St. David.' 'Superceding of servants here, by placing those from other settlements over

them, is discouraging; and having studyed to merit favour, hope for the same protection as is showd to those in Bengal in this respect.' 'Captain Clive and Mr. Orme were prevented embarking on the *Admiral Vernon.* They now go on the *Bombay Castle* with Mr. Cornelius Goodwin, Mrs. Cockell and Mrs. Colefax, also Mrs. Clive.' 'Indent enclosd for books for the Secretary's office, etc.' 'French have sent a ship to Pondicherry with a Coast cargo from China, being unable to provide teas for her. Some Military came on her and two others have sailed from thence with Coast and Bay cargos for the Islands.' The Church wardens request books sent home to be searched regarding a debt of 1,000 Pags. 'under the head of East India bonds,' and another of 89½ Pags. from Henry Newman. 'Charterparty.—An explanation of it desired as to limitation of the dispatch of ships from Bengal to the 11th March and from this Coast to the 11th February; apprehending though this settlement is in the Bay of Bengal, yet the proviso for not dispatching them thence before the 21st November does not extend hither, from custom and the danger of keeping them so late in that month.' Have equipped the *Prince George* with guns, etc., obtained by Captains Browne and Carter. 'Charles Maul, surgeon, James Abbott, carpenter, and John North, gunner, discharged by Captain Browne, as requested, to remain in India. The necessity of the Company's particular service only induced them to it and is a measure they will not promote.' 'Captain John Scrimsour died the 15th instant, and Lieutenant Wood of the Train the 31st January. The latter is succeeded by Mr. John Dickenson. Promotion of Captains will be deferrd till expected ships arrive.' The invoice of the *Bombay Castle* amounts to 90,993 Pags., and diamonds registered, 92,860 Pags. The cash balance is 25,396 current Pags. and 10,005 Madras Pags. Private trade from Bengal amounts to 18,900 Arcot Rs. and from Madras to 1,780 Pags.

Postscript: Bills on the Company for 1,307 Pags., and certificates for 2,327 Pags. on account of the estate of Major William Kinneer.

ABSTRACT OF DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. MARCH 24, 1753. RECEIVED OCTOBER 15, 1753. [*Coast and Bay Abstracts, Letters Received, Vol.* 5, *pp.* 392–393. (*India Office transcript.*)]

This goes by the *Chesterfield* which takes 988 bales. 'Lieutenant Shaw of the Bengal Artillery detachment, having resigned his commission, returns with his family.' 'Lieutenant Daniel Pepper

dyed a few days since; his rank entitled him to the next vacant company.' 'Artillery officers per Regulations may be promoted in the other corps which is likely to occasion great uneasiness among the military officers and will be a hardship on the former who then can rise no higher than Lieutenants. Particular orders desired that discontent may be removd.' The *Chesterfield's* invoice amounts to 100,274 Pags.; diamonds registered, 20,037 Pags.; and private trade from Bengal, 5,678 Rs. and from Madras 2,166 Pags. Captain Carter's demand for demurrage. Bills on the Company for 130 Pags.

ABSTRACT OF DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. APRIL 19, 1753. RECEIVED APRIL 6, 1754. [*Coast and Bay Abstracts, Letters Received, Vol.* 5, *pp.* 402–403. (*India Office transcript.*)]

The *Godolphin* takes 922 bales, redwood and 1,200 bags of saltpetre at half-freight, and proceeds to Sumatra to complete her tonnage with pepper. The *Chesterfield* sailed on February 25. The *Prince George* took salt, rice, 27 topasses and 21 coffree women to Sumatra, and will return with timber and planks from Batavia for the works. On April 5, Hunter proceeded on his expedition with the *Colchester*, *Arcot* snow, *Porto Bello* and *Fortune* sloops, and was to meet the *Cuddalore* at Vizagapatam. Thomas Winter succeeded to the command of the *Delawar*, *vice* Captain Dominicus who died at Galle. Payment of her repairs to the Dutch at Negapatam. Advance to ships' Captains. Sumatra affairs. Have sent on the *Don Carlos*, 25,000 Pags. for Vizagapatam, and 400 candies of redwood to Bengal. 'Broadcloth sold last October. The discount of 9 per cent expiring the 20th instant, prolonged it to the last of this month, as the major part had been cleard in this interval, and the remains likely to be so. Another inducement was the small stock of money for the great demands and necessary expences.' Short delivery of rice and jute rope from Bengal asserted to have been due to thefts on the boats at Calcutta before loading. These allegations 'seem probable from the several instances of the like deficiencies in many vessels from Bengal this season.' The *Godolphin's* invoice amounts to 70,082 Pags.; diamonds registered, 9,616 Pags. The cash balance is 32,052 current Pags. and 5 Madras Pags. Certificates granted for 722 Pags. on account of the estate of Major William Kinneer.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. OCTOBER 25, 1752. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 56, *pp.* 27—30. (*Original* 4 *pp.*)]

Sent the *Delawar* to Madagascar for coffrees, being assured that they would make good soldiers; as the Council reports that they are dreaded as much as Europeans by the Moors, now send the *Dragon* (Captain Henry Kent)* to Madagascar for 500 more, in the same proportion as those by the *Delawar*. Head-money 20*s.* to the Captain and 6*s.* 8*d.* to the Mate. Also will allow them 5*s.* per head for as many as they shall assist the *Swallow* with after completing their own cargo. 5*s.* head-money to the Surgeon. The *Swallow* is also sent to Madagascar for about 300 coffrees for Bombay. Other directions as per those for the *Delawar*. Send a slave who deserted from St. Helena, having been ill-used by the armourer under whom he was employed, and who is willing to serve the Company anywhere else.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. DECEMBER 15, 1752. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 56, *pp.* 31—49 (*Original* 19 *pp.*)]

Cite despatches of the previous season. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches, dated August 6 and 15, 1751 (received February 16), September 30, 1751 (received March 12), October 24, 1751 (received May 10), January 25, 1752 overland (received September 19), and February 15, 1752 (received September 17). Suggest the possibility of sending further despatches by the later Bombay ships which usually touch at Anjengo after the last ships have left Madras. Have taken up 18 ships, of which 6 are destined for the Coast and China, and 6 for the Coast and Bay. Have also fitted out the Company's own ships *Dragon* and *Swallow*. The Coast and China ships are now under despatch; the Coast and Bay ships will sail about the middle of January. Name the China supercargoes, the Secret Committee, etc. Madras consignments by the China ships to be unladed, and if possible goods for Canton to be put on board, without loss of time. Supercargoes to be afforded all assistance and information, especially about Quedda. The *Winchelsea* will bring 300 pipes of Madeira, 200 for Madras and 100 for Bengal. Colonel Scott takes his passage on her, and she is to put in at Vizagapatam

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* Kent's instructions form, pp. 209—219 of Public Despatches from England Vol. 56.

on her way to Bengal, to allow him to survey the defences. Usual allowance of 20 pipes on the officers' privilege. The Coast and Bay ships carry no iron kintledge, so must receive their full kintledge (16 tons for every 100 tons of charterparty tonnage) in saltpetre. Those despatched from the Coast are also to receive the usual quantity of redwood, and the rest of the tonnage is to be made up with piece-goods according to the list of the investment. If that falls short, the cargoes may be made up with saltpetre. Surplus bales may be laded at half-freight. Should the charter-party tonnage be only just made up, extra saltpetre should be laded to cover the usual 5 % wastage on that commodity to save the Company from having to pay dead-freight. If any ship has to be detained, it should be the *Winchelsea*; but hope none will be. Importance of despatching ships in good time. Coast and Bay ships may be detained on the Coast if thereby they can be despatched home earlier than if sent on to Bengal. Measures for prompt despatch to be concerted with Bengal. Usual orders about the over-carriage of private silver, etc. No head-money, etc., to be paid on account of lascars sent back to India. Usual orders about forwarding bullion to Bengal.

Have sent between 2 and 300 bales of woollen cloth more than was indented for. Also 210 barrels of gunpowder. A considerable part of the treasure for the Coast is sent in gold. Send a standard set of scales and weights for the Mint and Warehouse. The list of the investment is to be strictly complied with. As the Vizagapatam and Ingeram cloth has proved better and cheaper than that from Madras and Fort St. David, the former is to be encouraged and increased; the quality must be maintained and the measurements must be—longcloth 36 yards by 1⅛; salampores 16 yards by 1⅛. As a large investment may be expected next year, arrangements to be made with Bengal to secure the necessary tonnage, and sufficient saltpetre must be obtained from Bengal.

Country affairs seem improved with the prospect that the Nawab may at last be established in his Government. Urge the need of ending the troubles freeing the Company from 'the present heavy and intolerable expenses,' and recovering the advances made to the Nawab. Have appointed Caroline Frederic Scott (Lieutenant-Colonel of the 29th Foot and Aide-de-Camp to the Duke of Cumberland) Engineer-General. Insert a copy of his Instructions which are as follows:—

The principal object of his appointment is the fortification of Fort William; orders regarding the same; should any settlement

be attacked Scott may proceed thither if he deems necessary, and on his arrival he shall sit and vote at all Consultations dealing with military matters. May appoint Inspectors of Works, on whose certificates the Paymaster shall issue money. Materials to be paid for only on the joint-certificate of two Inspectors countersigned by Scott, who, in cases of irregularity, has power to demand the Paymaster's dismissal, and himself to dismiss any other person employed on the works. Similar orders as to Robins regarding designs or plans. To call at Fort St. David,* Madras and Vizagapatam on his way to Bengal, and report upon the works there. If it will not hinder finishing the works on the Coast, Brohier or any of Robins' assistants may be taken to Bengal. Scott to draw pay of £400 a year as Engineer-General and Major at Fort William, with a seat as Third in Council and the usual salary and allowances of that rank.

One of the conditions on which the King and the Duke of Cumberland gave Scott leave to proceed to India was that he should not be put under the orders of any officer of inferior rank; Lawrence is not to go to Bengal while Scott is there. Should any accident befall Lawrence, Scott is to have the command of all the Company's forces. While on the Coast, he is to receive the respect due to his rank, distinguished merit and abilities.

The works at Fort St. David and Fort St. George are to be completed with all convenient speed, subject to Scott's directions. Brohier (whose conduct the Company approves of) is to act as Assistant Engineer under Scott as he did under Robins. As a reward for his services he is to receive the command of one of the Artillery companies. Robins' young assistants are to be continued in the same capacity under Scott. 120 Swiss recruits are sent for the two Swiss companies that sailed last year, and 60 Protestant Germans for the Artillery. Any ill-treatment of them on the voyage is to be reported. Will also send as many English recruits as can conveniently be embarked. Lewis d'Illens is to be Captain and [ ], a German Gentleman, Second Lieutenant, of the Artillery company at Fort St. George. They sail by the *Edgebaston*. John Ridge, John Caillaud, and William Lin sent out as Captains; Daniel Campbell, and John Fraser as Ensigns of Foot, and William Wells as Lieutenant of

* Copy of a despatch, dated December 15, 1752, addressed to the Deputy Governor, etc., at Fort St. David, and directing them to afford Scott all facilities, forms pp. 51—51 of *Public Despatches from England*, Vol. 56.

Artillery. Their pay will commence from arrival and they will succeed to the first vacancies in their respective ranks; no additional companies to be formed for their accommodation. Last season permitted William Pye to proceed to Bombay to join the Coast forces as a volunteer; he has held a commission in the King's service and should be promoted if he merits it.

Have determined to have two Artillery companies—one at Fort St. George and one at Fort St. David—being convinced of the importance of that arm. Each company to consist of:—1 Captain (£200 a year); 1 First Lieutenant (£100); 1 Second Lieutenant (£90); 1 Third Lieutenant (£ 90); 6 Sergeants (2*s.* a day each); 6 Corporals (1*s.* 8*d.*); 30 Bombardiers (1*s.* 8*d.*); 30 Gunners (1*s.* 6*d.*); 40 Mattrosses (1*s.*); 2 Drummers (1*s.*). d'Illens is to command the company at Fort St. George and Brohier that at Fort St. David. The German subalterns and privates sent out with d'Illens are to form part of his company.

George Pyne, Charles Smith, Alexander Dalrymple and John Davidson appointed writers on the Coast. As the Council reported that Palk was on his way home, the chaplaincies on the Coast were filled up; he has therefore been appointed to Bombay with leave to remove to either Madras or Calcutta in the event of a vacancy, but will be junior to the chaplains already at those stations.

Supplement: The German Artillerymen have been detained by contrary winds and may not be able to sail by the *Edgebaston*. Send special shears for cutting copper-plates; artificers at Madras to be encouraged to use them. Scott has been directed to take a careful survey of all artillery and stores.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC.
EAST INDIA HOUSE. JANUARY 24, 1753. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 56, *pp.* 53—77 (*Original* 25 *pp.*)]

Acknowledge the receipt on December 24* of the following despatches:—Generals of February 24 and July 5, 1752; Separate letter of July 5, letter from Saunders and Cockell of July 5, letters from Lawrence of June 11, from Kinneer of June 30, from Brohier of July 6, and from the Fort St. David Council of July 8. The despatch of shipping. Now despatch the Coast and

* According to the letter of Secretary James to Saunders, etc., dated December 29, 1752 (*Public Despatches from England*, Vol. 56, *p.* 91), these despatches were received on December 27.

Bay ships, which will land their passengers, etc., at Madras and take in rupees in exchange for bullion for Bengal. Silver to be coined with all promptitude. As usual now, the Madras consignments have been sent by the China ships; but the disposal of the Coast and Bay ships (though they carry no goods for Madras and are consequently consigned to Bengal) is to be determined by both Madras and Bengal in concert. Have rebuked Bengal for thwarting the Madras scheme for employing the *Scarborough* and *Hardwicke* in country voyages. Complain of the delay in landing broadcloth and stores sent for Bengal by the *Augusta* in 1749. Though the Madras Council procured much better terms for freight voyages than were got in Bengal, yet 4,000 Pags. (for which the *Warwick* was let out for a voyage to China and back) does not quite cover the amount of the demurrage; something more should have been got, especially considering the risk of her not returning in time to be sent home the following season. Other ships were let out for precisely the demurrage rates; urge that as much as possible more than that should be secured.

Sent by the China ships for Madras £88,650 in gold; now send £12,167½; hope this will answer the Council's expectations. All the silver now sent is consigned to Bengal, but so much may be detained as is absolutely necessary, according to the Council's estimate of the investment and expenditure of the coming year, which estimate is to be sent home. Positive orders to sell all goods at public outcry. Hope 'the late turn in our affairs' will enable the merchants to carry on their trade and clear the woollens they had bought but left lying in the Warehouse. Council considers that a greater quantity of woollens than is indented for cannot be sold; the excess this year is but 250 bales, and for the sake of encouraging the British manufactures, it is better to be rather overstocked than want for a bale. The English assay of the China gold received by the *Warwick* agrees pretty well with that made at Madras. Approve the punishment of persons making base coin at Fort St. David. Send some avoirdupois weights to serve as a standard by which to regulate the weights; consider that Smyth King's regulating the weights at Madras so that the hundredweight was 3 lb. heavier than a set brought out by the ships, looks more like fraud than accident; regret that this was only discovered after he had left the service; the conduct of the covenated servants must be frequently enquired into. Are pleased to observe that the coffrees behave well. Have complied

fully with the indent for small arms and military stores. In regard to the complaint that many muskets are defective, the tradesmen say this is too general a charge to answer; future defects must be precisely specified. Indents for iron and steel for use should show the purpose for which these are intended. Two cases of cloth omitted in last year's invoices. Redwood to be provided early for the China ships. As Brohier reports gunpowder can be made better and cheaper at Madras than elsewhere in India, a power-mill may be set up; what more is needed should be got from Bombay or Calcutta; it is cheaper at the latter; it is too dangerous to send large quantities from Europe. The 800 copper hoops stolen are not to be written off till the matter has been enquired into.

The investment received by the last shipping was as large as could reasonably be expected. Trust that the turn in affairs will have restored tranquillity to the country; as soon as that comes to pass, the quality of cloth should be improved and prices reduced; last season's cloth was debased in fabric; it should be remembered that trade profits afford the only means of meeting the heavy expenses on the Coast. The Northern investment is to be encouraged. Leave it to the Council's discretion to choose responsible merchants to contract with. As there is no longer an excess of shipping in the East, revoke the orders permitting the acceptance of turned-out cloth, as this tends to debase the manufacture. Sent a considerable amount of gold on the last ships; now send more, and will continue to do so as long as may be necessary. Merchants' balances to be kept within reasonable limits. Approve the Armenians being prevented from importing Northern cloth of the Company's sortments and some of it being taken on the Company's account.

As Dupleix' schemes tended so much to the destruction of English trade, approve the measures taken to oppose them; hope the recent success has permitted a secure and honourable peace. Have submitted to His Majesty the reports received from Madras regarding the French plans, and pointed out the impossibility of even keeping a footing on the Coast if they are not checked. Dupleix' long letter, which the Council says is full of falsities, was also sent to the Company by Dupleix through the hands of the French Company; hope to receive shortly the Council's observations on it, so that it may be seen wherein those falsities consist. Continue to approve the measures taken against the French; but

hope the disputes may soon meet an honourable end; the Council's prudence and the Commanders' behaviour have merited success; but the accidents of war and the uncertainty of allies might bring the Company to ruin by defeat; and as the French would probably not have shown the moderation displayed by the English after their success, we have more at stake than they. In consequence of Cockell's death, the Committee is to consist of the President, the Second in Council, and Lawrence. There are rumours that 5 or 6 men-of-war have sailed from Brest for India; but cannot believe the French contemplate a direct breach of the peace.

Empower Scott to approve or modify Brohier's plans for the defences of Fort St. George.* In case of Scott's death, Brohier, of whom the Company thinks highly, is to execute his plans with all despatch. The Madras defences are of great concern to the Company, and Scott should devote to them all the time he can spare from other matters. Barracks for the troops should be set about without delay, as also all necessary buildings and repairs. The Madras works will cost much more than Robins estimated, owing to the impossibility of using 'sodwork'; they must be executed with the greatest economy. Will 'properly consider' Brohier when he has made further progress with the works, as also such of his assistants as may merit it. The materials of the Portuguese church should be sold; the square adjoining it may be converted into officers' quarters or put to any other suitable use. Need a report on the reasonableness of giving 'a gratification' for the church and square before deciding about this matter. Consider that a reasonable assessment should be made on the inhabitants towards meeting the cost of the fortifications. As large new spaces of ground will now be available for building, grants should only be made on condition of a reasonable quit-rent. Approve the prohibition of vessels lading or unlading at St. Thomé instead of at Madras. As the Black Town will have to be almost entirely rebuilt, separate quarters should be assigned to the several castes. Cannot find the result of the enquiry into the charges for building the redoubt at St. Thomé; expect to hear that justice has been done if there was any fraud. Desire an exact account of all ordnance and stores on the Coast. Urge the importance of increasing the revenues by encouraging trade and settlement.

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* Copy of a short letter to Scott to this effect, dated January 24, 1753, forms p. 251 of *Public Despatches from England*, Vol. 56.

Trust that the writers superseded last year by the factors then sent out will not consider it a hardship, as so few covenanted servants were 'of an age fit for immediate business.' Servants remiss in their duty to be called to account; 'the expensive manner of living and the strong bias to pleasure' generally prevalent must be checked. Junior servants to be encouraged to learn Persian and other Country languages; those who succeed in this shall be particularly rewarded; send some Persian books. Are greatly displeased at Goodere's resignation without giving notice or adjusting his accounts; but regarding the order to attach his effects, he denies being indebted to the Company nor does it as yet appear otherwise. In future every servant from the Governor downwards is to give 12 months' notice of his intention to quit India (except with the Company's special leave), and this is to be publicly advertised so that all creditors may have due warning; free merchants must give a month's notice. So large an allowance as £100 a year should not have been assigned to Fairfield as Sub-Accountant without the Company's knowledge; but its continuance is sanctioned in view of the importance of the office and Fairfield's assiduity. Palk is to proceed to Bombay unless a vacancy has occurred. In the absence of the Second, the Major (as Third of Council) takes place of all the rest; Starke should not have been given precedence of Heron during Cockell's absence; but on an actual vacancy arising, the Fourth in Council rises to be Second. The amounts due have been paid in London to the representatives of the following deceased persons :—Charles Dobbins (16 Pags.); Borlace Stacey (23 Pags.); Richard Turner (581 Pags.); Charles Nicholls (1,337 Pags.); George Swinfen (431 Pags.). Errors in the Madras accounts. The books as kept before 1746 are to serve as models. As some of the old books of Standing Orders are lost, desire copies of such as remain and a collection of the Company's Standing Orders since the loss of Madras. The book of Standing Orders is always to lie on the table whenever Council meets. Consultations must be indexed and margined, and be sent home by each conveyance. Monson has promised to pay the 3,568 Pags. owed by him to the church-wardens of St. Mary's. The French Jesuits in China alledge that the 20,000 Pags. deposited by them in the Company's cash at Madras in 1727 is irredeemable; however the papers show that this is not so; the bond is to be paid off with simple interest from the time when the last payment was made, which is said to be March, 1746. Have

already paid off demands made for money lent to Morse, etc., at Madras before that place was taken; direct the following claims to be paid off with simple interest provided Council is assured of their validity:—bonds for 2,000 Pags. from the Church-wardens, dated September 30, 1746; bond for 4,368 Pags. from the Corporation Stock of the same date; bond for 5,000 Pags. from Peter Boileau of October 1746; certificate, dated November 2, 1746, for sundries supplied by Robert Sloper to the Storekeeper, 377 Pags.; and a bond of the same date for 2,000 Arcot Rs. from Solomon Salomons. Directions for securing valid releases for these bonds. Order an examination into the claims of John Gray for 2,567 Pags. and of Peter Dencker for 916 Pags. Have settled accounts with Morse* and got a release which will bar any action on his bonds for a total of 50,000 Pags. There is a claim on behalf of the late Thomas Eyre for 3,562 Pags.; but Morse's cash account shows that he was advanced 4,000 Pags. on August 31, 1746, which item is omitted in Eyre's account; Morse says this advance was made by transfer from Eyre's account as Sea-Customer to his account as Paymaster; order an enquiry.

Lewis d'Illens, Captain, George Hilfer, Second Lieutenant, and about 70 subaltern officers and private Germans, now take their passage. William Wells has been ordered to Bengal instead of the Coast. Thomas Alfred and John Francis Paschoud to be appointed to the first vacancies as Lieutenants of Artillery after their arrival. Send 30 Swiss recruits. Send 60 recruits for Bengal who should not be detained unless under absolute necessity; advise the return of the Bengal detachment now on the Coast as the Bengal garrison is very weak. Are much concerned to hear of Roman Catholics being found among the Swiss companies; all precautions were taken to prevent this; believe Chabbert and Schaub knew nothing of it. Are assured that all Swiss troops in foreign service have the privilege of holding their own courts-martial, and that this is the reason of the good discipline for which they are famous; if Chabbert and Schaub had been allowed this privilege, the desertion of the Swiss would probably have been avoided; it is in future to be allowed. Care is to be taken to prevent quarrels between the Swiss and the English; good service can be expected from the former only if they are well-treated. Kinneer

* Morse's account with the Company, showing a balance due to him of 51,395 Pags. (signed by him, and receipted by Richard Benyon and Aaron Franks acting as his attornies), forms pp. 246–247 of *Public Despatches from England*, Vol. 56.

reports difficulties because some of the Swiss Second Lieutenants hold commissions of an earlier date than some of the First Lieutenants; in future date of commission is to determine the rank only of officers of the same grade. Kinneer requests that £100 a year may be paid by the Company to his family in England out of his salary; this practice was laid aside many years ago as inconvenient; Kinneer in future must remit money to his family by the Company's bills or certificates; meanwhile have advanced £25. Captain John de Morgan's pension of 25 Pags. a month may be continued in consideration of his long services and inability to support his large family. Approve the steps taken to suppress the mutinous spirit among the officers, especially sending Lieutenant Hockett to England; hope that Killpatrick will show gratitude for the lenience he has been treated with. The Company's esteem for Lawrence has been increased by the alacrity with which he took command of the expedition to Trichinopoly on his arrival, and by his soldier-like conduct there. Clive may be assured of the Company's gratitude, for his courage and conduct to which 'the late favourable turn in affairs has been greatly owing.' Also acknowledge the merit of de Gingens and the other officers who have shown their ability and courage. Desire to know why no answer was returned to the Company's orders regarding Thomas Heath. If he is unable or unwilling to serve under Scott or Brohier, he is to be sent home. The King has granted a new Charter for the administration of justice; a separate despatch deals with it. Have advanced d'Illens £250, to be repaid within 2 years.

SEPARATE DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JANUARY 24, 1753. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 56, *pp.* 255—266 (*Original* 12 *pp.*)]

Counsel advised that the capture and possession of Madras by the French abolished the powers granted to the Mayor's Court by the Charter of 1726. His Majesty has accepted the surrender of that Charter and granted a new one which amends the defects discovered by experience in the old. Now send an exemplification of the new Charter under the great seal, with two written copies of it and of the surrender of the old one. The latter takes effect within 30 days of the receipt of the new Charter at Madras. A Court is erected consisting of a Mayor and 9 Aldermen. These are to assemble on the first Tuesday in every December and nominate

two persons, one of whom shall be chosen by the President and Council as Mayor for the ensuing year, from December 20. Vacancies among the Aldermen to be filled up by the President and Council; persons refusing to serve shall pay a reasonable fine; all vacancies to be filled before the Aldermen proceed to the election of a Mayor. The Court has power to determine all civil suits arising within their jurisdiction except those between Indians and those under the value of 5 Pags. If the Mayor or any Alderman is interested in a suit, he shall not sit or act as a Judge; in suits where the Judges are equally divided, the Mayor (or in his absence the senior Alderman) shall have a casting vote. The President and Council to choose a Sheriff for the ensuing year on the first Tuesday in December. The Court shall examine Christians upon oath, Quakers upon affirmation, and Indians according to caste custom. Provision is made for suits against the Mayor and Sheriff and for the Company to sue and be sued. All effects of suitors ordered into Court are to be deposited in the Company's cash, where they shall remain subject to the orders of the Court; a covenanted servant is to be appointed to keep account of the same under the title of Accountant-General. The Court is empowered to frame Rules of Practice and appoint clerks, etc., subject to the Company's approval; and the Company has power to make rules for the better administration of justice. Fees payable are to be fixed by the Court and Council. Appeals lie to the President and Council; and further appeals to the King in Council in causes over 1,000 Pags. in value.

A Court of Requests is established to hear all suits to the value of 5 Pags. and under; the President and Council name the first Commissioners, and on the first Thursday in every December half the Commissioners go out and an equal number must be named in their stead. The President and all Members of Council* are appointed Justice of the Peace, and Commissioners of Oyer and Terminer, and Gaol delivery. All proceedings (civil and criminal) depending on the arrival of the Charter are to be continued under the new Charter. The Charter, and all orders the Company may give under it, are to be studied and obeyed. The oaths are to be taken and any vacancies filled up within 30 days of the receipt of the Charter. Vacancies are to be filled with such covenanted

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* Under the Charter of 1726, the President and five senior members of Council were made Justices of the Peace.

servants as are duly qualified, and other persons are to be appointed only in their default. When the offices have been filled up and the oaths taken, the President and Council, with the Mayor, Aldermen and Sheriff, are to proclaim the establishment of the new Courts, etc. The Mayor, etc., are also to fix court-days and make Rules of Practice. The article in the Charter regarding the evidence of Indians was inserted because it is believed that certain castes would not take oaths; but the weight of evidence given by Indians upon affirmation must depend upon its intrinsic probability and the credit of the witness. Transmit an instrument obliging the Company to be answerable for suitor's effects deposited in the Company's cash. Authorise the President and Council to appoint an Accountant-General; send as models the forms in which receipts, etc., are given in the Chancery accounts with the Bank of England. The allowances to be made to the Accountant-General and the Register of the Mayor's Court for keeping these accounts should be proportionate to the trouble involved; desire the Council's opinion as to what will be reasonable.

Send a copy of the instructions for procedure in the various Courts, as those sent out in 1726 may have been lost. The rules therein prescribed are to be followed more exactly than heretofore. For instance, bills of complaint and answers are not to be prolix or libellous; attorneys who draw improper bills, etc., are to be made to amend them at their own cost; special rejoinders to a general answer are not to be allowed, according to the practice of the English Courts of Equity. Transmit a copy of the despatch sent out with the Charter of 1726* together with some law-books.† Also send copies of the recent Act for the better prevention of murder, action under which may be adopted if thought useful.

The Court of Requests established in imitation of the several Courts lately set up in English cities and boroughs. Send Regulations drawn up by the Company concerning it. Officers of the Court to be few and fees low. The Commissioners should remember that the faithful discharge of their duty may be a blessing to the people. Send copies of the Acts establishing similar Courts in

* Copy of this despatch (dated February 17, 1727), forms pp. 271—275 of *Public Despatches from England*, Vol. 56.

† The list of the packet (*Public Despatches from England*, Vol. 56, pp. 253-254) shows the following:—Cay's *Abridgement of the Statutes*, 2 vols., fol.; Hawkins' *Pleas of the Crown*; Barlow's *Justice*, fol.; Blackerby's *Justice*, 2 vols.; *Office of a Clerk of Peace.*

England, with special instructions regarding processes and orders of the Court. At first all moneys paid into Court may be lodged with the clerk; should these ever become considerable, he should give security for their safe custody. Any plaintiff suing in the Mayor's Court for matter not exceeding 5 Pags. shall be allowed no costs.

Should experience bring to light any defects in the new Charter (for the best-concerted undertakings often fall short of their institution), these should be reported to the Company.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1753-1754.

ABSTRACT OF DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. OCTOBER 29, 1753. RECEIVED MAY 7, 1754. [*Coast and Bay Abstracts, Letters Received, Vol.* 5, *pp.* 409—418. (*India Office transcript.*)]

Cite despatch of April 19. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches, dated December 15, 1752 and January 24, 1753, and Secretary's letters of December 29, 1752.

The China ships' movements. The *Montfort*, *Portfield*, *Falmouth*, *Egmont*, *Elizabeth* and *Dragon* have arrived on the Coast and proceeded to Bengal. Some of the *Falmouth's* crew were mutinous. The sloops *Syren* and *Sea Horse* built at Bombay, being for the Bengal river service, have proceeded thither. The *Prince George* will be sent to Sumatra. Other shipping news. '*Delawar's* cargo.—Have been obliged to supply with saltpetre what it wants in bales. The Northern factories that used to furnish 1,000 or 1,200 bales having sent in only 330, their precarious situation would not admit of their desiring any more than the *Durrington* to be dispatched hence in January.' The new method of investment started in Bengal may give rise to difficulties, and it is feared that 4 or 5 ships will be detained there for want of cargo. It is unreasonable of Bengal to expect 2 of their ships to be employed entirely by Madras so late in the season, without offering to provide any of the the capital needed for their employment. In future to prevent loss by demurrage, both Bengal and Madras should co-operate in providing mixed cargo for such ships. 'Freights offered for the *Scarborough* and *Hardwicke* must be allowed very large by those conversant in the trade of India and were higher than what usually paid in Bengal. *Warwick's* China freight was proportioned thereto and to the *Royal Guardian's* formerly. 16 or 18 per cent respondentia on these voyages exposes them often to loss.' Tonnage on hand may be employed in bringing rice from Bengal or timber and plank from Pegu. 'Ships importing at foreign places to the southward having greatly affected the revenues, instances were thereupon made to the Bay in this respect who urge the reaping up an obsolete order, the troubles in this country and goods laying unsold for many years; reasons given for the insufficiency of those allegations, as

well as the propriety of increasing the Company's rather than the revenues of foreigners. An instance given of a cargo of rice sold at Pondicherry from the *Britannia*, Captain Widdrington, and a second contracted for though he was advised a better price would be given at Fort St. David. More remarks of this kind could be offered. They hope for the recommendation of their views merely for the increase of the Company's revenues'. Advances, etc., to Captain Winter of the *Delawar*. Enclose an account of the private trade landed this season from the Europe ships.

Small deficiencies, etc., in treasure and gold. Have been obliged to retain 32 chests of Bengal treasure. Have received 1,000 barrels of gunpowder from Bombay and 50 chests from Bengal. The latter was fit only for salutes. 'Gold sent was very serviceable. Request the continuance of that consignment.' 'Slaves.—167 received per *Dragon*, 70 whereof were supplied from the *Swallow*. Captain Kent has been paid commission on the whole, but Mr. Morgan abated 5 *s.* each on the latter. The Doctor has been allowed headmoney as orderd. The men are trained to the military and women sent to the West Coast.' 'Diamond merchants are allowed to send their consignments to Bengal. Custom and consulage having been demanded there a second time, certificates have been granted of the payment of those duties here, to Messrs Walsh and Vansittart to exempt them from a second charge which they have before paid at both [?] places.' Sale of the remains of the Madagascar cargoes by the *Dragon* and *Delawar*. 'Broadcloth medleys received for 3 years are all mildewed though cases and package seem good.' 'Sugar of the new project from Fort Marlbro.—A small parcel receivd appeard neat and good and sold at 16 Pags. per candy, being then the price of the best Batavia sortment.' Captain Winter complained justly that the redwood sent aboard his ship was bad. It was bought in Floyer's time. 'Arms designed for Bengal.—Their necessities have urged them to land the greatest part here.' 'Mint.—Directions given for observing the nicest exactness in it with regard to the standard of coins. Some dollars now sent (with the musters of gold and silver) to prove that silver is annually debased. It is requested the bullion yearly sent may be assayed.' 'Weights and scales have been regulated. Copper hoops really were stolen, not embezzled. 'Timber and plank for the fortifications per *Delawar* and *Prince George* from Batavia is cheap. The latter is orderd thither again for another parcel after leaving the West Coast.' Copper sold at 90 Pags.;

lead at 11 Pags. 6 fms.; and iron at 13 Pags. a candy. 'Broadcloth sold last year; several bales laying in the warehouse till paid for, being damaged by the storm and rejected by the purchasers, agreed to resell the same.' 'Broadcloth.—285 bales sent more than indented for. All endeavours shall be used to promote the vend of it. Last year's parcel though all sold, mostly remains in the place. The prices are followd [?]; the sale of what came this year deferred till January, believing it would not go off.' 'Madeira wine, found on a survey to be properly stowd, had leaked 8½ pipes which is referred to the Court. What sent to subordinates fixed at 60 Pags. The average price at outcry here was more than 69 Pags. per pipe.'

'Warehouses by last year's late dispatch being cleared to 18th April, thereby making that season's more considerable, lessens the present investment; besides the effect the ravages of armies have on it, which before the War were as distant as Tritchanopoly. Fort St. David till a few months past blockd up from January; the communication with Salem, where much cloth now lays, too precarious to risk it; and parties continually plundering about Chingalaput, etc., have been of great hurt; and little cloth to be got except near Tanjore; all settlements here equally affected.' 'Northern settlements wherein greatest dependance was had unexpectedly fail, from the war there, in 900 bales; or they had not been far short of the usual tonnage. The Residents of Bandarmoulanka and Ingeram give hopes of returns for the large supplies sent and if the jarring Country powers about Vizagapatam should agree, as there are hopes, it is probable a large parcel may offer towards the dispatch of another ship.' 'Fine goods being too dear, an abatement of 5 per cent insisted on from the contractors Linga and Servannah Chittees; who refusing the provision, offered to Tellisinga and Gundaveddy; when the two former's request for being continued was granted, as their exclusion might embarrass the provision of goods.' 'Chints orderd to be made according to those of Vizagapatam remarkable for colours; the cloth thought too course and dear and painting ill done; a future trial will be made.'

'Colonel Scott.—On the first notice of his appointment, plans of the works at St. David orderd to be laid before him and his directions to be followed. He surveyed and approved them according to Mr. Robins' scheme. On viewing the fortifications here, part of Mr. Robins' plan was adopted by him, rejecting fortifying the whole Black Town and enlarging the White one. This will be a

great addition but very expensive. Mr. Brohier's letter hereupon referred to and directions will be waited for, as the works to the westward can't be finished before they may be received.' 'Bricks being greatly diminished in size, from whence a large expense in chunam arises, they are at Mr. Brohier's instance ordered to be made of the standard size which will be a great saving.' 'Works at St. David much impeded by the enemys continuing so long near it, as well as from the want of such large quantities of bricks and chunam as they require.' 'Repairs.—Amount of them swelled by the ruinous state this place was found in.' Have ordered changes in the form of Brohier's accounts, so that the expense of each building may be distinguished. 'Barracks.—The building them deferrd on Mr. Brohier's opinion that when the works are finishd the properest place may be fixd on. The Hospital for the present answers this purpose and some houses in the Pettah are fitted up for the sick.' 'Security of the Island.—For preventing its becoming a morass from the freshes during the monsoon is a work Mr. Brohier has now on hand. This arises from a neglect of it for several years.' The Portuguese Church cost 35,000 Pags. If a compensation is awarded, it should be to Padre Severini. Materials used or sold have been credited to the Church. The square will be used for officers' quarters. 'Confiscated houses and one pulled down before loss of Madrass.—The restitution demanded for them referrd to the Court. Mr. Morse intimates retaliation was made for those pulled down.' 'Garden house.—One purchased for the Governor of Mrs. Medeiros for 3,500 Pags. being very cheap.' 'Vizagapatam works not having been reported by Colonel Scott, nothing can be said thereon. His designs are reported to differ from those of Mr. Robins.' 'Mr. Brohier has been desired to wait the Court's promisd consideration of his services, on desiring an allowance as Engineer.' Have deferred assessment to pay for the works, as they will take some years to complete, and as the people have not yet recovered from the loss of Madras. 'Jagoo.—Chintadre Pettah Pagoda has been confirmed to him. These religious edifices, having their foundation by Governor's dubashes from oppression to the enriching of worthless people that would be punished if they had their deserts, public notice has been given forbidding any more to be built.' It was with difficulty that Poonamallee was let for 35,000 Pags., the same as last year. The renters will be pressed for arrears. Unserviceable guns sent home as kintledge.

'Colonel Scott.—The directions for his reception and treatment here and at the subordinates complied with. Major Lawrence has been acquainted he is not to go to Bengal while the Colonel commands there. Mr. Robins' assistants remain.—Mr. Knapton at the Negrais; Mr. Call at St. David; Mr. Preston Lieutenant at Arcot; Mr. O'Hara gone with the Colonel to the Bay; and Mr. Heath will be under his direction.' 'Messrs. Pyne, Smith, Dalrymple, and Davidson, writers, arrivd and employed suitable to their capacity.' 'Artillery companys.—Two have been formed according to order, under Captains D'Illens and Brohier. A small Train also at Vizagapatam commanded by a Lieutenant. The ignorance and disobedience of the Germans greatly complained of. English are greatly to be preferred to Swiss or Germans. The former have many real Frenchmen among them. The Swiss are tryed by their own officers and enjoy the privileges directed. Quarrels between these and the English troops shall be prevented.' 'Recruits sent arrivd in good health and were well treated. Some disputes arose between Captain D'Illens and Captain Vincent. It appeard the former's men behaved ill. By Mr. Margas's report, this difference supposd to arise from French officers generally carrying command aboard ship, when on English ships they are deemd passengers only.' 'Captains D'Illens, Ridge, etc., officers arrivd rank as per their brevets. Lieutenant Barker remains here; and Lieutenant Alford is gone to Bengal at Colonel Scott's desire.' 'Swiss recruits are incorporated in the three companies of that nation.' 'Recruits for Bengal detained through necessity. They shall be sent thither when affairs permit.' 'Volunteers.—Several persons have been entertained as such on the necessity of supplying vacancies of officers with them preferably to serjeants. The conduct of such as have been promoted has convinced them it is a right measure.' 'Mr. Ardley from the West Coast now ranks here, according to his standing.' 'Mr. Charles Bourchier is taken into Council and appointed Rental-General, Scavenger and Military Storekeeper. He has desired to resign the Secretary's post after this ship's despatch. Mr. Josias Dupré is to succeed him and Mr. Claud Russell to be Sub-Secretary.' 'Mr. Hopkins appointed Chief of Devecottah. In his passage thither from Vizagapatam, was drove to Atcheen and did not arrive here till lately where he proceeded immediately to his charge. 'Mr. Dawson has had the management there during this interval.' 'Mr. Drake being appointed supravisor to the West Coast, Mr. Pybus was

named to be Third of Council at St. David. But the former refusing to proceed, Mr. Pybus was fixt on in his room; and Mr. Hugh Norris succeeds as Third at St. David and Civil and Military Paymaster.' 'Officers dead since last address.—Captain James Chace, Lieutenants Jas. Trusler of his wounds, Jas. Symmonds, Hy. a Moinichen and William Wilkie, killd; Henry Munro, Alexander Kirk, killd; Ensigns Jacob Crow, Martin Harrison and Joseph Clack, killd; Samuel Melotte and William Holt died of their wounds; Lieutenant Hilfer of Artillery killd; and Ensign Polier, dead.' 'Captain Sanderson of the Bengal detachment, at his request, returns thither to settle his affairs. Lieutenant Keene's desire to resign his commission has also been complyed with.' 'Military promotions:—Lieutenants Thomas Grenville and John Grant to companies; Lieutenant Charles Campbell to a Captain-Lieutenancy; Lieutenant Sampson Morrice made Quartermaster of Foot at camp; Ensigns Christopher Fisher, A. Preston, Arthur Nelson and Joseph Sommers to Lieutenancies; and Voluntiers, J. B. d'Apscher, Jno. Perceval, William Rumbold, Thomas Rumbold, Jno. North, Andrew Craig, and Richard Black made Ensigns; also Lieutenant Pero of Artillery appointed Captain-Lieutenant of the Train at Fort Marlbrõ; Lieutenant Robert Revell of Artillery promoted as Quartermaster of the Train at camp; and Serjeant William Matthews for his bravery made a Third Lieutenant of Artillery.' 'Pension of 5 Pags. a month granted the widow of Lieutenant Moinichin, a gallant officer who died bravely in defence of Trivady. She has one child, is big with another and in necessity.' 'Sea-faring men being wanted, Robert Todd and James Bound allowd to stay in that capacity.' 'John Palmer of great merit and qualifications, formerly a monthly writer, continued as an assistant without pay. Former recommendation of him as a writer strenuously repeated. His petition enclosed.' 'Depravity of manners, profuseness and dissolute behaviour shall be discouraged and resented.' 'Covenant servants.—A chearful attachment to the Company's interest wanting in some of them. This is contrary to their covenants which oblige them to attend wherever it shall be thought necessary, and is very ungrateful.' 'Supravisors for the West Coast.—Mr. Perceval, being newly appointed Mayor, could not proceed as such. Messrs. Walsh and Drake were thereupon appointed. The latter, after trifling and prevaricating for 6 weeks, declined on pretence of indisposition, which not rendering him incapable of his duty, he is

orderd to the Presidency and Mr. Pybus goes to the West Coast in his stead.' 'Council in camp.—Major Lawrence esteeming two necessary, and it being of the greatest inconvenience to spare more than one, Mr. Thomas Cooke invested with this commission. After giving insufficient reasons, he scandalously insisted on a reward of 1,000 Pags. His obedience being on pain of suspension insisted on, he proceeds. They are sorry to instance so mercenary a conduct instead of an honest hearty zeal for the Company's service.' 'Bond to Mr. Powney, church-warden, was burnt. Confirmation thereof delivered by the church-wardens in a paper signed by Messrs. Morse, Eyre and Harris. The claim being just, it will be paid.' 'Demand of 3,000 Pags. with 8 % interest made on account of the Charity school. That sum was receivd 7th May 1746 on those terms as per cash account. Being restrained paying other sums than those mentioned in the letter of the 24th January 1753, it is referrd to the Court.' 'Bond to Joseph Fowke, Mayor and Alderman of Madrass, dated 30th September 1746, remains in the Company's books, the present Corporation having declined the receipt thereof.' 'Bond to the Church stock from Mr. Monson is discharged.' 'Mr. Eyre, late Paymaster and Sea customer.—The clearest statement of his accounts with their opinion on them is deferrd till January that Mr. Morse and Mr. Perceval, the executor, may look over them.' 'Mr. Eyre.—The balance of his accounts as Paymaster of Pags. 3,562-15-78 has been refused Mr. Perceval, his executor. When they have scrutinised into them, they will give their opinion on this demand.' 'Mr. Goodere's account currant will appear plainly on the Vizagapatam books. It was his duty to have left his station with regular decency and justice to his own reputation.' 'Debt from Mr. John Stratton on Vizagapatam books.—Payment thereof has been demanded of his heirs whose desire for time to be advisd whether it has not been already settled in England has been complied with. Amount Pags. 2,592-0-78.' 'Subordinates.—No person hereafter shall be permitted to leave them without first settling his accounts, and such as succeed, if remiss in seeing it done, to be responsible.' 'Major Kinneer.—What advancd in England may be reimbursd from the certificates now sent.' 'Peter Dencker's demand seems just from the accounts transmitted, signed by Messrs. Morse, Monson and Harris.' Maintenance of books, etc.

Sumatra affairs.

'Justices and Mayor and Aldermen sworn. Vacancies of the latter named in the Charter supplied. Commissioners of the Court of Request nominated, officers of the several Courts appointed and fees regulated. The Charter was publishd within 30 days after its receipt. A Court of Oyer and Terminer was held the first instant; and the Courts of Record and Request meet weekly. Mr. William Perceval is Mayor; Messrs. J. Walsh, S. Greenhaugh, G. Mackay, A. Ross, A. Munro, E. Edwards, R. Fairfield, J. Browning, and J. Smith, Aldermen. The Commissioners of the Court of Requests are Messrs. H. Norris, H. Vansittart, C. Turner J. Alexander, C. Simpson, J. Bourchier, J. Munro and F. Taylor.' 'Mayor's Court expenses.—600 Pags. advanced for them. Their fund being in cash, their monthly charges will be defrayed.' 'Town Hall being tumbled down and no place for the Court, orders are waited for rebuilding it.' 'Commission fontrying pirates of the Fifth of His present Majesty. They request to be informed whether it is in force.'

Supplement: 'Redoubt at St. Thomé which exceeded Mr. Robins' estimate considerably; Mr. King, Paymaster and the overseer of the work being gone home, a survey of it by Captain Brohier enclosd makes this ill-conducted work Pags. 592-32-31 less than it was charged at. A large expense arose on cooly hire for bricks that might have been made on the spot, but no direct fraud appears.' Requested Bengal to send a ship to the Negrais to relieve the *Colchester*, as Hunter considers that a Europe ship should always be with them. 'An organ, it is desired, may be permitted to be sent them and passage granted to an organist.' 'Permission money.—They desire directions whether it is to be demanded for children going to Europe for education. Passengers on this ship are Captains De Gingins and Clarke, Mrs. Cassamaijor and four children.' The *Delawar's* cargo which consists of 1,108 bales, saltpetre and redwood, amounts to 123,227 Pags.; diamonds registered, 99,823 Pags.; and Captain's private trade, 2,970 Pags. The cash balance on hand is 45,759 current Pags. and 520 Madras Pags.; and in the Treasury 13,91,169 Arcot Rs. and 10,000 current Pags.

Postcript: Bills drawn on the Company for 5,575 Pags.; and certificates for 177 Pags. on account of the estate of J. Trenwith, 1,572 Pags. for William Lefevre's, 1,052 Pags. for Samuel Tat[h]am's and 1,026 Pags. for J. E. Cooper's estates.

SEPARATE DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. OCTOBER 29, 1953. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 19, *pp.* 52—65. (*Copy* 13½ *pp.*) *Damaged in places. Also Coast and Bay Abstracts, Letters Received, Vol.* 5, *pp.* 419—422. (*India Office transcript.*)]

Have reserved political and military affairs for separate treatment. Have just received news, dated September 20, of the expedition to the Negrais: Hunter arrived there April 26, and at once landed some of his forces. After 2 or 3 days he found good water in the south-east of the island, and cleared the ground there for his settlement. But his coffrees mutinied, seized arms and ammunition, and took to the woods; 10 have since been captured, and most of the others are believed to have been starved or drowned in an attempt to escape to Pegu. Hunter believes the King of Pegu's promises to be dictated solely by his fear of the Burmese Prince, who has a strong army and is thought likely to recover the kingdom; nor has the King of Pegu much influence with his own people. Hunter desires that a Residency should be established at Persaine, as the principal settlement. He desires a supply of men, etc., and permission to leave the Negrais during the sickly season, as his health is bad. He has sent some timber he thinks fit for gun-carriages. The coffree mutiny 'which we were greatly apprehensive of' will have hindered the progress of the buildings; and the labourers must be replaced. Hunter's diary is too long to be copied in time to be sent by this ship. The King of Pegu was at first hostile; the settlement will doubtless prejudice the port of Syrian; and as the King cannot be trusted, the place should be fortified and garrisoned without delay. Then neither the Burmese nor the Peguans will be able to dislodge us; but an open rupture should be avoided, and our conduct should be such as to show that we intend no evil to the kingdom. The climate of the Negrais is reported unhealthy, especially in the monsoon; but as the people aboard ships lying a short way off shore had neither fevers nor fluxes, it is thought that the island may be healthy when cleared of jungle. There is good water; and plenty of turtle may be had on Diamond island, a short way off. As there is no one suitable to replace Hunter, he will be advised to live at Persaine or Syrian during the monsoon. Shall leave Hunter to decide whether or not to make Persaine the head-quarters. Will cultivate trade to the utmost; but no immediate benefit can be expected. Hunter has not yet been able to ascertain whether the place is

suited to repair and careen large vessels. Have desired Fort William to send a ship to replace the *Colchester*, with lascars and work-people, rice and provisions. Shall send 30 soldiers thither, and 2 palankins as a present for the King.

At the request of the King of Tavoy, who fears the Dutch settlers who have been attracted by the supplies of tin, Captain M'Eachern hoisted the British colours there and took formal possession, with a grant of exclusive trade to the English. As the Council thinks that friendship with the King can do no harm, although the Company does not trade thither, they have agreed to his proposals with the exception of sending military stores. The place exports the finest tin, rice, ivory, cardomums, wax, etc.

News has been received, dated September 22, from Delhi, that the Vizier Munsur Ali Khan, has rebelled against the Emperor, Ahmad Khan; but, after plundering Delhi of 7 crores of rupees, the rebels have been driven out of the city. The Marathas are using their claim to the chauth (which exceeds or falls short of a quarter of the revenues according to the relative strength of the parties) to interfere in these quarrels. They are plundering in most parts of the Empire; Balaji Rao accompanied Ghazi-ud-din to Aurangabad; after Ghazi-ud-din's death he made peace with Salabat Jang on condition of receiving large jaghirs, and then marched towards the Carnatic, where (he assured the Governors of both Madras and Bombay) he intended to assist Muhammad Ali Khan. But he suddenly turned aside into Mysore, which he ravaged till the King agreed to make peace for 25 lakhs of rupees. He declares that he will come into the Carnatic after the next monsoon, and is now at Poona, having marched over a great tract of country and gained 2 crores of rupees in his campaign.

After peace was made with the Marathas, the French urged Salabat Jang to march into the Carnatic; but the nobles of his Court opposed this, and persuaded him to go to Aurangabad where he still remains. Out of jealousy he has imprisoned his brothers in the fortress of Daulatabad; and is said to be short of money with which to pay his troops. Saiyid Lashkar Khan has been restored to favour and is said to be friendly towards Muhammad Ali Khan and [hostile ?] to the French. Believe this to be true, for soon afterwards they were dismissed and marched to Hyderabad; but when disputes arose again with Balaji Rao, they were recalled. They have been reinforced from Pondichery, where every effort has been made to induce the Swiss and English prisoners to take service

with Bussy, although Dupleix has always pretended to regard them as hostages, not prisoners. The Moghal is said to have granted the Deccan to Ghazi-ud-din Khan's son ; but the troubles at Delhi have prevented his march.

When Lawrence was still before the French entrenchments at Tiruviti, Captain John Dalton, who had always reported there was 4 months' provision in Trichinopoly, suddenly wrote that he had only 15 days' store. His garrison moreover had been weakened by the loss of near 70 men and by the absence of a topass detachment which had been sent out but was unable to return. Lawrence at once marched, leaving Captain Chace in Tiruviti with 170 men. At first Chace repulsed the French attacks, but later sent a party of 70 men out too far and lost them all. When the French renewed their attacks, the garrison, which was 'under no command' released the French prisoners and gave up the place. The French then completed the occupation of that part of the country by taking Chidambaram and Vriddhachalam. At Arcot, Captain Sanderson sent a party so near to Vellore that it was routed and Lieutenant Joseph Smith with some of his men taken prisoners.

Lawrence visited the King of Tanjore who received him well and promised help, but no troops were sent till after a second visit. Various skirmishes took place round Trichinopoly; and on September 21, there was a general action in which the French were routed with a loss of 70 Europeans killed and 100 with 7 officers taken prisoners. About as many more were sent wounded to Pondichery. The Nawab and poligars are very dilatory in provisioning Trichinopoly ; so we are having to attend to this ourselves. By the last report from Lawrence, he was in the Tanjore territories. The Nawab has not been able to collect enough revenues to fulfil his contract to pay the expenses of the troops, which amount to nearly a lakh of rupees a month. This is a burden too great for us to bear, yet, if we do not, the French will immediately have the province. The Nawab's debt is now near 20 lakhs. The revenues of the Company's new acquisitions are nearly 2 lakhs a year.

As regards the future, Balaji Rao's coming is uncertain, and if he comes, it will be for motives of gain. In the Carnatic, the French, Mysore and Morari Rao command troops exceeding in number those of the English, the Nawab and Tanjore. But the French troops have behaved ill in most field-engagements. Of the

Country forces Morari Rao's are the best. The Nawab's and the Mysore troops take up much room but do nothing. Peace is undoubtedly most desirable. The Nawab has been pressed to make peace with the Country powers; and Lawrence and Palk were empowered to treat for the English, but nothing could be settled. Lawrence then desired two of Council to be sent to camp; this could not be done, so Cooke was sent, but this also seems to have been fruitless. The Mysore Vakil tells Saunders that his master cannot treat openly in camp for fear of offending the French. The Nawab also says he can do nothing in camp, and has empowered the President, etc., to treat with the Mysore Vakil. The King of Mysore demands Trichinopoly; the Nawab will agree to anything but that. The Nawab certainly has no right to cede Trichinopoly, and it should not be done except of absolute necessity. The King would give very advantageous terms, including the repayment of the Nawab's debt to the Company. Will do everything possible to find a middle course, although the cession of Trichinopoly would probably not affect the Company's investment at Salem, as that would make the King as firm a friend to the English as an Eastern Prince can be. But even should peace be made with the Country powers, matters would still have to be settled with the French. Last year the Nawab made proposals which were rejected. He has now empowered the Council to treat with Dupleix; and it has been proposed that the basis of peace shall be the recognition of Muhammad Ali as Nawab and the security of the King of Tanjore. Dupleix has replied that this would give all the advantages to the English, and has proposed a conference. In return the Council have inquired what his alternative proposals are. Doubt Dupleix' intentions regarding peace. The suggested conference is probably intended to cause suspicion amongst the Nawab's allies. For the last three years Dupleix has been repeatedly brought very low, but has preferred any alternative to entering into a Treaty; the recruits he receives from Europe are doubled by the drafts he takes out of the French shipping. Six months ago his expenditure was believed to have amounted to 120 lakhs; and this seems to indicate that he is receiving support from the State, and not merely from the Company. Moreover when he is grasping at the government of the country from Cape Comorin to Point Palmyras, how can he be content to share in a free commerce with other nations? On the contrary, once he has secured the Carnatic, he will proceed to the conquest of other parts of India.

Cannot get exact information of the French outward and inward cargoes, as the ships often put in at the Islands. Believe 9 ships came out this year and 1 now returning. A Portuguese ship, the *Royal Galley*, which left Lisbon on May 2, put into Fort St. David on October 8, and her supercargoes applied to have their bullion coined. This was refused, so they proceeded to Pondichery. She is said to be bound for Bengal and Surat.

As Starke is at Fort St. David, and Lawrence in camp writes that he will obey no orders but those of the Governor and Council, the latter have resolved that the Private Committee is useless, and so have dissolved it. Regret the difficulties with Lawrence, but the Council's orders are always conceived solely in the interests of the Company. Urge the need of supplies.

DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. FEBRUARY 7, 1754. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 21, *pp.* 18—22 (*Copy* 5 *pp.*)]

This goes by the *Dragon*. Cite general despatch [of October 29, 1753] by the *Delawar*. Shipping news. The French are despatching 1 and the Danes 2 ships for Europe. Could not sell the broadcloth by public outcry but will try again next month.

David Hunter died at the Negrais on December [24], 1753 and Henry Brooke takes his place. The Negrais is extremely unhealthy except on ship-board in the harbour. Many of the work people are dead and only half the soldiers are fit for duty. Provisions are scarce and have to be sent from Madras or Bengal, and the works are backward. The Treaty with the Pegu King is incomplete. He has sent his Minister Coja Necoos but is not reconciled to this settlement and hopes that the difficulties will compel the English to give it up. Its harbour is reported to be unapproachable except at particular seasons. The place is not as favourable to trade as was first represented. Have therefore instructed Brooke merely to hold it, but meanwhile to procure from the King an exclusive right to Persaine, a place eminently suited for a settlement. Major Lawrence's health has been broken down by continuous service for 2 years. Have written to Bengal to relieve him. Though the Emperor has defeated the Vizier, the troubles have not ended. The French have rejoined Salabat Jang and the Nana is at Poona. Salabat Jang is said to be coming southwards, but he is distressed for money and is afraid of rebellion. In consequence of of the arrears due to the French, he has granted them the countries

of Rajahmundry and Chicacole which they will probably usurp as their own. Nawab Jaffar Ali Khan is defying their authority and the French have to force him to obedience if they are to be benefitted by the grant. The Nawab's army was cantoned for the winter on the Tanjore frontier. The French attacked Trichinopoly but were repulsed with a loss of 400 Europeans. The Marathas attempted to plunder the Tanjore country, but they have been forced to retire. The Nawab's troops are near Trichinopoly covering convoys of provisions. The French are at Srirangam. Hear that Balaji Rao is coming here and is said to have offered, if he does not come in person, to send the Nawab 20,000 horse; but all this is verv uncertain.

A peace Conference has been held at Sadras—Palk and Vansittart for the Nawab, and Father Lavaur, du Bausset and Kerjean for the Country powers and the French. The English proposed that Muhammad Ali Khan should be confirmed as the Nawab of Arcot, that the King of Tanjore should be left undisturbed, and that in return Muhammad Ali should cede to the French districts equal to those held by the English and allow free commerce to both nations. The French rejected it and refused to recognise Muhammad Ali, and proposed that the Nawab should give up his claims, that Dupleix should be Governor of the entire country from Cape Comorin to Point Palmyras, including Rajahmundry and Chicacole and that the English shall have their annual tribute for Madras remitted, have Poonamallee, and secure their debts. The French produced several sanads. On examination one sanad was found to be sealed with a seal dated 1733; on this being pointed out, the French pretended that it was a mere duplicate and that the original, dated 1751, was at Pondichery. But they refused to permit further scrutiny. Dupleix' offers may seem tolerable, but neither he nor Salabat Jang can fulfil them; and they would involve submitting to illegal authority, betraying the Nawab, and ruining the Company's settlements. The Conference has broken off. It is evident that Dupleix' plans extend to the whole Coast, and no peace can be expected. Urge the despatch of as many recruits as possible, for 'on a superiority of force depends entirely the very existence of your settlements.'

Diamonds registered amount to Pags. 3,518–24–0 and private trade to 1,300 Pags. Bills have been drawn on the Company for Pags. 733–24–32.

Appended are:—Register of diamonds, manifest of private trade, lists of the packet and sailing orders for Captain Henry Kent of the *Dragon.*

ABSTRACT OF DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. MARCH 9, 1754. RECEIVED OCTOBER 5, 1754. [*Coast and Bay Abstracts, Letters Received, Vol.* 5, *pp.* 458—462 (*India Office transcript.*)]

Cite their despatch by the *Dragon.* This goes by the *Durrington* which takes bales and 60 tons of saltpetre at half-freight.

China and Bombay shipping. 'Pass promised them 23rd January 1750 is desired lest the form of that now used should be defective.'

Enquire of the cost of the assay utensils and the chest of glass sent by the *Drake.* 'Broadcloth damaged by last year's storm sold well at outcry, the quantity being small.' Last year's grain sold at a profit of 1,128 Pags. 1,000 candies of redwood provided for the China ships. Have sent to Sumatra 31 coffree women useless here. Have transmitted Bombay bills favouring Bengal. 'Woolen goods.—The bad success as to what received this season and the remains obliges them to deny the request of Bengal to dispose here of half the expected consignments to them or at least to detain it in the godowns, as that will have the same effect at this place which those in the Bay are desirous of guarding the large quantity they have on hand from.'

Of Investment—'They have exceeded the quantity expected, the war being removed at some distance. St. David have done something. Madras merchants have performed tolerably not being exposd to the Morattas. Madapollam has furnishd 250; Ingeram 200 bales; and Vizagapatam but 76, from the plunder and troubles it has been oppressd with. They will do their best, but the hopes of more success next year are quite uncertain. The French have obtained grants of the rents of the countries whereon the three last factories depend. The Rajah, a friend to the Company and who still says he is such, has farmd them and promises protection, yet he must oblige the French, and impediments may be expected. Should the war in this province be removed nearer and Salabad Jing come, neither nation can do much.' 'Chints orderd at Vizagapatam, done on course and indifferent izzarees, colours dull and painting bad; a further trial will be made on percallas, a thinner, properer and cheaper cloth.'

The Dutch give no signs of friendship. They obliged a Madras-Manilla ship which was driven into Malacca by a leak to pay 1 % on landing its cargo. Unless redress is obtained, will retaliate this inhospitable treatment.

Works are progressing slowly both here and at Fort St. David for lack of men and materials. Sea and Land customs increased by 2,324 and 1,129 Pags., respectively. Have granted Sunku Venkatachalam a quantity of ground in Egmore, as large as that formerly held at Chintadripet. The old renters of Madras have been required to pay the arrears up to August 18, 1746, but excused the rest till the place surrendered in September, as the confusion prevented any collections. 'Tax on provisions taken off, there being no cowle for it and a general hardship.' 'Duty of 40 cash more than allowd by cowle taken by remeasuring grain has been abolished as a great grievance falling directly on the poor.' 'Pagodas.—Their revenues on a scrutiny found to be near 3 % on all imports by black merchants, besides the collections on goods from and to the inland marts. . . . This [is] burthen on and discouragement to trade opposite to every good purpose. Submit the cancelling them to the Court's determination, the same having been obtained by the Dubashes to former Governours and confirmed by the then Board.' Enclose Padre Severini's petition regarding the grant of the Vepery church to the Danish missionaries. Application from Dupleix and Father Sebastian for the confiscated house of Baillieu. The St. Thomé renters were allowed 1,000 Pags. as compensation (they had claimed 2,000 Rs.) for the enemy's ravages.

Dupré appointed Secretary *vice* Bourchier resigned. Alexander Baird permitted to resign. Lawrence falling ill, Colonel Scott has been desired to come from Bengal to take the command here. Heath who served well in the Civil department for 5 years is now put under Colonel Scott. 'Soldiers sent from Bengal and those landed here are put on their establishment as Governor Drake and Colonel Scott desired.' Have abolished the extra diet allowance to soldiers and officers detached from one settlement to another, as it is believed that their contract requires them to serve at any settlement. Granted a pension of 15 Pags. a month to Clemente Poverio, Captain of the Topasses, for meritorious service in the course of which he lost a leg. 'A monthly writer allowd the Military Storekeeper, and William Aldersey employd as such under the Secretary in Mr. Dolben's room who supplies Mr. Heath's place at Madapollam. Such is their necessity for assistance, from the

Country troubles.' Vansittart has made much progress in Persian. Request for his use a copy of *Thesaurus Linguarum Orientalium* by F. Mesgnien, printed at Vienna. Dupleix has been requested to deliver to Captain Schaub the effects of Ensign Prevost who died a Roman Catholic at Pondichery. 'Captain Gaup desiring to be allowd cloathing for his whole company, whether compleat or not, they have kept up to the established rule of the English companies of doing it for the effectives only.' Casualties and promotions among the Military. A commission was granted to Major Lawrence for holding courts-martial. Thomas Mansell, acting as Commissary in camp, is appointed Judge-Advocate. A promotion has been occasioned on Captain Dalton's resignation, and vacancies made by the late action.

Scrutiny of Thomas Eyre's accounts, as Sea Customer and Paymaster, with Morse. Of the 4,000 Pags. advanced by the latter, 3,578 Pags. have been very fairly accounted for.

Sumatra affairs.

Munro was elected Mayor and James Alexander made Sheriff. Bond for 4,368 Pags. paid to the Mayor's Court. Have allowed £20 a year each to the Accountant-General, the Register and the Sub-Accountant of the Court; and 4 Pags. a month to the Clerk of the Court of Requests. 'Disputes have arisen among the members of the Court interrupting it. Mr. Fairfield has made the proper submission on a complaint from Mr. Ross. Mr. Ephraim Isaac, for refusing to name the author of a report complaind of by Messrs. Percival, Browning, Fairfield and Edwards, and for forward behaviour on the occasion, was reprimanded. Those persons blamd for absenting the Court.' 'Mr. Percival dismissd from being an Alderman on absenting himself from the Court as alledgd to the impeding of justice, after his desiring to resign.' 'Charter.—Their thoughts on its defects now laid down':— 'Some rule necessary for removing the inconvenience of natives becoming suitors in the Mayor's Court but by mutual consent, for the party in the wrong will always decline it.' The Court consider that the term 'natives' covers 'all born in India,' but Council think it covers only Muhammadans and pagans. Enquire whether the Mayor can be re-elected the ensuing year as in Bengal. It is perhaps better to avoid it. The rule that an Alderman's seat should only be filled after a year's absence is unsatisfactory. There is no need to replace a supercargo who has been accidentally detained a month or two over a year; a covenanted servant

ordered to another settlement should be replaced at once. Vacancies in the Court of Requests should be filled up as they arise and not annually as is ordered. The foregoing are the criticisms of the two Courts. The Board now offer further considerations:— 'Appeals to the King in Council may be made on giving security to pay the interest of the sum in question with the costs of the appeal, but it is not mentioned, though it seems just, that the appellant should give security also for the sum itself.' Point out that the Charter makes no provision for the resignation of Aldermen. 'Broadcloth.—Much of the imports of 1752 remaining, sale of those of 1753 was deferd longer than the usual time; and being put up according to orders on the 30th January and yesterday, no bidder appeard.' Complain that the Fort St. David books, in spite of pressing orders and even threats, though due in October, were received only two days ago. Their general letter received this morning. A suitable censure will be passed on them for this neglect. The *Durrington* has on board 1,250 bales invoiced at 119,732 Pags.; diamonds registered, 106,244 Pags.; and Captain's private trade, 24,690 Arcot Rs. The cash balance is 19,845 current Pags., 791 Madras Pags., 614,411 Arcot Rs., and 8,320 Madras Rs. Bills drawn on the Company for 1,541 Pags.; and certificates for 2,946 Pags.

SEPARATE [?] DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. MARCH 9, 1754. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 19, *pp.* 66—69 (*Copy* 3½ *pp.*)]

Regarding the Negrais, the situation of the place is not so favourable as was represented to the Company; it is so unhealthy that even the Peguans cannot remain there for long together, and everyone is afraid of going there. Percival, Hopkins and Smith all declare that their health is too bad to allow them to succeed Hunter; and Council considers that there is no need for one of Council to reside there. Have recalled Westgarth from Syrian; his accounts appear very irregular. Have appointed Thomas Taylor to succeed him.

The Moghal is said to have made peace with his Vizier. The French have succeeded in inducing Salabat Jang to move from Aurangabad to 'Calacheputra' on his march towards the Carnatic; but it is believed that lack of money, the likelihood of rebellion, and the opposition of Balaji Rao will prevent his march. Saiyid Lashkar Khan has resigned in disgust. Have already

reported that the rents of Rajahmundry and Chicacole were mortgaged to the French, but that Nawab Jaffar Ali Khan refused to obey the orders. He and Vijayaram Raz wrote to Saunders offering to defend the country if a force of Englishmen were sent to their help; but the situation in the Carnatic would not allow it. Jaffar Ali has now gone to Hyderabad, and Vijayaram Raz has accepted the government from the French, so that our settlements are still undisturbed. Possibly he will quarrel with the French when the revenue falls due for payment.

The surprise and destruction of a party of 200 English with 7 officers when escorting provisions into Trichinopoly. This loss affects us more than the French have been affected by losing 1,000 men in the last year. Lawrence had given hopes of being able to attack the French if he was reinforced; and a party was being prepared to send to him; but now he will probably have to act on the defensive. The French are indisposed for peace save on their own terms, as papers in the French Correspondence show. Though Dupleix claims so extensive an authority, he seems uncertain of the justice of his claims, for he has never demanded from the Dutch the tribute they pay annually to the Sarkar for Pulicat and Sadras. The Nawab cannot make peace with Mysore except by ceding Trichinopoly; if necessary, he must do this. Should Salabat Jang come into the Carnatic, the English will withdraw all their inland garrisons except Trichinopoly and Chingleput. These places with a year's provisions would be perfectly secure, as Salabat Jang could not subsist his army here for so long. The Nawab's troops will be under the cover of Fort St. David. Believe from 'the extensive views' of Dupleix that the troubles will not subside. The matter must be settled in Europe or the Company must send out as many recruits as the ships can bring. If he once establishes a superiority, [the Coast ?] will be of little value to any but the French.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. NOVEMBER 28, 1753. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *pp.* 41—44 (*Original* 4 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of January 24, 1753. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches, dated March 21 and 24, 1753. Of the 17 ships taken up, 2 are destined for China direct, 5 for Madras and China, 5 for Madras and Bengal, 4 for Bombay and 1 for St. Helena and Sumatra. The Coast and Bay ships will sail in December and

January. The Secret Committee consists of Richard Chauncy, Roger Drake, William Mabbott, and Christopher Burrow. Send list of shipping. This goes by the *St. George* on which are consigned 30 chests of silver, 100 barrels of gunpowder and 70 tons of lead for Madras; also 300 pipes of Madeira to be equally divided between Bengal and Madras, unless the latter Presidency needs more, owing to the large number of officers and covenanted servants there, in which case 50 additional pipes may be detained. Any unusual leakage or damage caused by bad stowage must be made good by the commander. 20 pipes are allowed to the ship's officers as privilege, but anything in excess should be confiscated as unlicensed goods. As the Bengal ships cannot take in all the woolen goods consigned thither, 300 bales have been laded on the *True Briton*; these may be forwarded by the present ship unless they can be sold to advantage at Madras or at Bombay, where sales have lately been large and profitable. As much treasure as possible to be forwarded to Bengal. The French East India Company have sent one of their Directors to accommodate the dissensions between the two Companies on the Coromandel Coast, and it is hoped that a Treaty will result. Have entertained as writers Samuel Johnson, Waldegrave Pelham, James Macormick, James Broadbent, William Aldersey, Robert Dowsett and John Hamilton. Send 60 recruits on this ship.

LETTER FROM ROBERT GOODERE TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. LONDON. DECEMBER 11, 1753. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *p.* 139 (*Original* 1 *p.*)]

Considers that the attachment of his cash in India was very unkind and malicious, as it is well-known that he has enough either in India or Europe to answer the Company's demands. Believes the step was taken in order to prejudice him in the Company's eyes. Has lived in India 'full long enough to loath the country and its constitution.' If he had left Vizagapatam without his enemies' having anything to accuse him of, he would have been more fortunate than any of his predecessors there.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. DECEMBER 19, 1753. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *pp.* 45—57 (*Original* 13 *pp.*)]

Cite despatches of January 24, and November 28, 1753. Acknowledge the receipt of Madras despatches, General, dated

November 3, 1752, February 21 and March 21 and 24, 1753; Separate, dated November 3, 1752, February 16, 21 and March 18 and 24, 1753; despatch from Fort St. David, dated February 28, 1753; from Major Lawrence, dated October 27, 1752, January 5 and 24, February 16, and March 9, 1753; and from Brohier, dated February 18 and March 18, 1753. Furnish a list of the 17 ships taken up for the season with their destinations. Bengal ships will call at Madras for the coinage of their treasure. Secret Committee. Name supercargoes appointed for China ships. Licensed silver, coral, emeralds, pearls, etc., for Madras or Bengal, if carried on to other ports by accident, may be forwarded freight free on any other Company's ship. Any goods suitable for China may be laden on the Coast and China ships. The *St. George* brings 300 pipes of Madeira, and 70 tons of lead for Bengal. In order to secure a September ship from Madras, a Bengal ship may be detained, but her cargo must be forwarded as early as possible. Expect all the Coast and Bay ships to be returned the same season, as there are only 5 of them of which 1 is small. Any surplus may be laden on a Bombay ship. As Coast and Bay ships carry no iron kintledge, their full kintledge is to be in saltpetre at 16% of the chartered tonnage. Consign to Madras 200 chests of treasure, 1,230 bales of woolen goods, 400 tons of lead, 150 tons of copper, 150 tons of iron, 600 barrels of gunpowder, etc. As it is very dangerous to send large quantities of gunpowder from Europe, and as with the necessary skill it can be made just as well in India, send an exact model of a powder-house and mills with a minute description, and William Bishop to be Superintendent of the powder works on £100 a year with pay as a First Lieutenant of the Military. Though all the treasure is consigned to Madras, as much as possible must be sent on to Bengal. Enclose Accountant's remarks on the assay of gold and silver coins. Notice inequality in the weight of Arcot rupees. The high standard of the Company's coins must be maintained. Send bale screws and a larger supply of medicines. St. Helena is in need of 30 coffree slaves. Send a parcel of books; will supply any others if necessary on 'divinity, law, commerce, or any other useful knowledge.' Forward list of the investment. The fabric of cloth made or bought at Madras and Fort St. David must be improved. Saltpetre as kintledge for Madras ships should be got from Bengal, and Bengal should be supplied with redwood for their ships. The 3 Presidencies should co-operate in arranging the disposal of the Europe tonnage. Surplus pepper from Sumatra to be sent home by

the store ship or by any of the Coast and Bay ships. Regret to hear of the misunderstanding between Saunders and Lawrence, so prejudicial to the Company's interest, but hope they have been reconciled by this time. A good understanding must be carefully cultivated between civil and military servants. To avoid employing Indians as writers, the Company's servants, especially the younger ones, must be fully employed; and if more are needed, they shall be sent out. Their conduct must be carefully watched. They should not be allowed to spend more than they earn. Their morals and manner of life are to be examined once every quarter and the result entered in the Diary. Send 62 English recruits; 300 more will follow. A 100 Swiss will also be sent for the Swiss companies. No recruits for Bengal should be detained if it can be helped, and troops forwarded to Bengal when they can be safely spared. Send out George Beaver, Alexander Callender, and Thomas White, as Captains; William Bishop as First Lieutenant; John Tabby, Robert Campbell, and Thomas Newton, as Lieutenants; William Jennings as Lieutenant of the Artillery; and Henry Meyers, Joseph Darke, and James Stuart, as Ensigns. As the quarrel between the Nawab of Arcot and the King of Mysore is so prejudicial to the former's affairs, every pacific and prudent measure to reconcile them should be taken.

The Treaty concerted with the French Commissary has been sent to Paris for consideration by the French Company. Appoint William James Tabby (Lieutenant Tabby's son) and John Nolikins, cadets on 20*d.* a day. Send a machine, invented by Ensign Meyers, for pointing and quick-firing of cannon by night as well as by day.

Appended are:—(1) lists of ships that arrived and sailed (p. 279); (2) description of the models for making gunpowder (pp. 285–286); and (3) Accountant's remarks on the assay of gold and silver coins in Madras (pp. 287–288).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JANUARY 23, 1754. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *pp.* 59—86 (*Original* 28 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of November 28 and December 19, 1753. The Coast and China ships sailed from England in December 1753. Bengal ships are to touch at Madras to land despatches and to exchange treasure for coin of which a quantity should be provided. Bengal should be urged to despatch their home bound ships early

as delay in their arrival in England hinders shipping for the current season. The charterparty rule that Bengal ships are not to be despatched home between March 11 and November 21, need not be rigidly observed. Regret to hear the misfortune that has befallen the *Colchester*, *Delawar*, and *Brilliant*. The *Yorkshire Grey* purchased for the Sumatra service is to be disposed of if the *Brilliant* is heard of again. No ships are to be purchased except under absolute necessity. The surgeon, carpenter and gunner of the *Bombay Castle* should be allowed to remain in India only if they will be of particular service in the Company's affairs. Are much disappointed that the *Delawar* only brought 216 instead of 600 slaves from Madagascar. If commanders so desire, the Coast and Bay ships may each be laden with 150 tons of saltpetre, provided room is found for all bale goods.

Have already sent 198 chests of bullion (£195,676-16-0) and 3 chests of gold (£31,576-19-8). Consign by the *Denham*, *York*, *Norfolk* and *Anson* 6 chests of gold (£76,000) together with silver for Bengal. An estimate to be made of what money will be needed for the Coast investment, for the payment of any debt, and for the discharge of expenses, until the arrival of the next season's ships, and no more bullion than what is absolutely necessary for these purposes is to be retained. Articles indented for must be precisely described or they cannot be sent. Have sent 1,230 bales according to the Company's scheme of exporting as much woolen goods as can be sold. If Madras is overstocked some may perhaps be sent to Bombay. Send as much lead and iron as ships can carry, as they sell for a good profit. Direct that the system of selling all goods by public outcry be maintained. The names of the consignee, and consignor will in future be included in manifests of coral, silver, etc.

On some articles of the Madras investment, there is a considerable loss, and the profit on the whole is too small to cover the expenses of the Presidency. The last investment was as large as could be expected but was poor in quality and high in price. The quantity, quality and prices of the Northern investment must be attended to by the Northern settlements who are to be supplied with ample funds. The method of providing the investment is so private as to admit of unfair practices. In future a month's notice is to be given for merchants to send in written tenders, the best of which are to be accepted.

As the scheme for an English settlement on the Negrais is no longer a secret, it may be dealt with in the general letters. Note

that Taylor, Westgarth, Hunter and Henry Brooke have been sent thither with vessels, etc., and that the French will try to render the project abortive. Should this prove a failure, the offer of a settlement at Tenasserim should be accepted if possible so as to prevent the Dutch and French gaining a hold there. The quarrel between the Nawab of Arcot and the King of Mysore is the more unfortunate as it has caused a great increase in the English advances to the Nawab. Urge the necessity of securing as speedy a reimbursement as possible.

Madras and Fort St. David fortifications must be completed and the Black Town defences specially strengthened, so as to induce rich country people to settle there for safety. The inhabitants of Fort St. George ought to contribute to the cost. Approve of Brohier's conduct in carrying on the works. Trust Colonel Scott will be able to complete all necessary works without running into great expense. Devikottai being an old country fort, should only be kept in repair with the least possible expense. A site should be selected for the new powder-mill. Perhaps the Egmore Redoubt, where the present powder-house is, may be suitable. All powder is to be tested in the presence of the Major and what proves defective is to be returned to be new worked. Approve of Council's successful application to the Nawab for remission of the annual rent of 1,200 Pags. for Madras. Burton's claim for money spent on the Garden House, etc., at Fort St. David was rightly rejected. Permit Jaggoo to collect the customs payable at the temple built by his father at Chintadripet, on condition that he pays off 2,000 Pags. a year for his debt to the Company. Call for a report on the protest made by the administrators of Coja Petrus against the delivery of the Vepery Church to the Danish Missionaries. Disapprove of letting farms for a period of 5 years. In future all farms are to be sold publicly in the presence of the Governor and Council, and for the present for no longer a period than one year.

Cannot grant the Council's request to permit junior servants to go to sea to carry on Council's private trade, especially as the Company have resolved that their affairs shall be carried on only by their own servants. As a rule there shall be no supersessions by removal of servants from other Presidencies. Send list of free merchants, etc., permitted to proceed to India. Samuel Chandler, permitted to reside in India as surgeon, may succeed to the first vacancy. Disapprove the employment of Palk as Paymaster and

Commissary as it is incompatable with his station as Chaplain. He is to be immediately relieved of these duties. Suspect that during the late troubles many servants have enriched themselves at the Company's expense by improper means such as perquisites in letting the farms, in contracting for investment and in supplying the Military with provisions, etc. Order an immediate enquiry into the profits of every servant with a view to checking this. Call for a report on two of the Council, charged with fraud. A statement of all perquisites received by servants should be furnished. Prescribe certain rules for the conduct of Company's servants:—(1) all servants, civil and military (soldiers included) must attend Church every Sunday; (2) the Governor and Council must watch and control the morals of all servants; (3) senior servants must avoid extravagant living, 'decent frugality' being more becoming to merchants; (4) junior servants must live within their means, and no writers should keep palankin, horse or chaise; (5) quarterly enquiries to be made into the conduct of all servants below the Council. In punishing a servant, formal charges should be framed, his explanation taken, and evidence impartially weighed; the full proceedings in each case must be sent to the Company to enable them to deal with appeals from such persons. Disputes which can be settled in India should never be referred home. Approve action taken on the discovery of Empson's fraud, and strict watch kept against all embezzlements. A small chest of treasure consigned to Lieutenant Green[ville] was carried to China as no demand for it was made to the Captain; steps should be taken to prevent mistakes of this kind. Robert Goodere has paid the balance of his account with the Company amounting to £1,279-13-2; and the attachment of his effects should be withdrawn, unless he is still indebted to the Company. The book of Standing Orders sent home only comes up to 1721. If the original is not brought up to date it is to be completed immediately and to lie on the table whenever Council meets. Date of Consultation to be noted on each page of the Consultation book. Accounts of quickstock, lists of christenings, marriages and burials, etc., must be brought up to date before despatch. Packets to be made as small as possible and put in square boxes instead of in 'portmanteau cases.' Complain that neither Cockell, nor Major Lawrence nor Major Kinneer has signed the Consultations at which they were present. This proves that the minutes were not brought up to date. In future minutes of

every Consultation must be signed within a week. Bonds bearing higher interest than 6 % are to be first discharged; the China Missionaries' bond for 20,000 Pags. and Lewis Madeiro's for 30,000 Arcot Rs., both bearing interest at 6 %, may be paid off when cash is available, but this should not be done if it will involve distressing Bengal for money. Call for a full report on Sultan David's bond for Rs. 20,000, dated August 7, 1745. Furnish extracts from the Church ledgers regarding East India bonds and bond of Henry Newman, late Secretary of the Society for Promoting the Gospel, who died insolvent. Have appointed David Blake, Randfurlie Knox and Robert Bannatyne as Ensigns. Can send only 164 more recruits instead of the 300 that it was proposed to send. A 'respectable military force' must be maintained on the Coast till the troubles are over, but their cost must be minimised. Send a party of Swiss recruits. Particular enquiry is to be made as to their treatment in their passage. They are to be on exactly the same footing as the other Swiss. Approve grant of uniform and a monthly allowance to the Coffrees in military service, instead of merely allowing them diet. Note that some misunderstanding has arisen between the Council and Major Lawrence regarding appointment of officers. Under the Military Regulations of 1748, it is vested in the Governor and Council (as the Company's representatives), due regard being paid to the recommendations of the Commanding officer; and special regard should be paid to all Lawrence's opinions relating to military operations, but they must be subject to the examination by the Governor and Council. Trust that Major Lawrence will forget past misunderstandings, and as 'a man of honour' do his duty. Expect all servants to act with 'steady zeal, unanimity and duty.' Ensign David Blake has borrowed £15 from George Higginson, which is to be recovered from his pay.

Sumatra affairs.

A letter from the *Garde-des-Sceaux* to the Duc de Mirepoix, dated at Paris, January 10, has been sent to the Minister. It says that the delay in the conclusion of the Treaty is due to the discussions being carried on between the Directors and the Ministers. It also states that Godeheu sailed from France on December 31, with orders to 'pacify the troubles.' He is said to be 'pacific' but firm, one who will not allow French privileges to be infringed. Suggest that until matters are settled, a cessation of arms be negotiated with him to include all the contending parties. The Nawab would have been much better off if he had surrendered Trichinopoly to Mysore when

it was demanded of him. Hope that an accommodation is still possible. The English Ministry is supporting the Company in their negotiations with the French Commissaries. If a reasonable Treaty is not secured, a properly equipped squadron of men-of-war with a body of His Majesty's troops is ready to sail for India. The Commander will call first at Fort St. David where arrangements should be made for the landing of troops, etc. A ship of the Embden Company under the protection of the King of Prussia, with Harris (an Englishman) as Agent, is about to sail for Coromandel and Bengal. He should not be allowed to interfere with Company's rights, and no encouragement is to be offered him.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JANUARY 31, 1754. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *pp.* 87-88 (*Original* 2 *pp.*)]

Colonel Scott should be on the Coast, either at Madras or Fort St. David, when the English squadron arrives. Accommodation and food must be ready for the troops. The squadron consists of 4 ships and 2 frigates with 800 troops on board. Trust that Thomas Saunders will not resign at the present critical time, as the Company have 'a great dependance upon his abilitys.'

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO CAROLINE FREDERICK SCOTT. EAST INDIA HOUSE. JANUARY 31, 1754. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *p.* 127 (*Original* 1 *p.*)]

Direct him to be at Fort St. George or Fort St. David when the King's Squadron arrives.

LETTER FROM H. FOX TO LIEUTENANT-COLONEL HERON. WAR OFFICE. FEBRUARY 1754. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *p.* 301 (*Original* 1 *p.*)]

Permits him to take up the Company's service provided he resigns his rank in the Army as Lieutenant-Colonel. If he behaves well in the Company's service, he will on return to England, be restored to his rank and placed on half pay as Lieutenant-Colonel of Foot.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. FEBRUARY 15, 1754. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *pp.* 89—97. (*Original* 9 *pp.*)]

The despatch of the *Denham*, *York* and *Norfolk* has been delayed till now, by the sailors leaving their ships owing to the

issue of press warrants for manning the Squadron about to sail to the East. The *Kent*, *London* and *Britannia* will be employed as transports for the King's troops and will be ready to sail the first week in March. In consequence, 3 additional ships have had to be taken up for Bombay. Kintledge on the several ships. This goes by the *Anson*. Lieutenant-Colonel Heron and Robert Orme will sail on one of the Bombay ships which will land them at Madras. The 3 transports should either be returned the same season with Coast and Bay goods, or employed in the Country trade at freight so as to cover their demurrage, or 2 of them may be sent to Canton on the Company's account. Consign on the *Anson* gold, etc., valued at £64,779-9-6.

Fear that unfair practices have been used in the investment; repeat the directions of January 23, and order that all proposals and contracts be made in Council and that all goods be sold at public outcry, at which all persons are to be encouraged to bid. The present crisis calls for a change in the constitution of the Council. It needs enlargement and each member is expected to work heartily and zealously.

Appoint as Council:—Thomas Saunders, President and Governor; George Pigot, Second in Council and Deputy Governor of Fort St. David; Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Heron, as Major and Third in Council; and Richard Starke, Charles Boddam, Henry Powney, Robert Orme, Foss Westcott, Alexander Wynch, William Percival, Thomas Cooke, John Smith and Charles Bourchier. This will form a larger body than usual, and no vacancies are to be filled until it is reduced under the number of 11. Such vacancies should then be filled by the next in standing unless they should be unfit persons. Repeat the direction that the Major cannot rise higher than Third in Council. In case of a vacancy in the Major's place it is not to be filled until the Council has received the Company's orders. Heron and Orme will sail on the *Warren* about the middle of next month. If Pigot is at a distance from Madras or Fort St. David, he is to be summoned thither at once. Although Pigot should generally be at Fort St. David, yet on extraordinary occasions he is to be called up to Madras. Major Lawrence continues on our Council and on the Select Committee for Country affairs, and owing to his abilities the Company hopes that he will attend as often as may be possible. Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Heron, an able and experienced officer, has been appointed Major of the Troops under the

Presidency of Fort St. George, with the command and clothing of a company, together with a salary of £ 250 a year and the usual allowances for diet, servants and palankins of the Third in Council. Although he is senior in His Majesty's service to Lieutenant-Colonel Scott and Major Lawrence, yet he is to rank under them and has agreed to this condition. He is also to rank below King's officers of the same degree with himself, just as Company's officers rank below King's officers of the same degree. The Board have unanimously agreed to present Lawrence with a sword set with diamonds worth £750, and Captain Robert Clive with a similar one worth £500 in recognition of their signal military services. Lawrence is to be informed of this, and when the sword is received, it is to be presented to him in Council. As soon as demands on estates of persons dying in India are satisfied, the net assets must at once be written off the general books. This must be especially attended to in the case of officers who die in the Company's service as the claimants are usually very importunate. As regards the estate of Captain William Richards the general books show 500 Pags. due, but as that amount has not been written off, the Company has advanced to his relatives who are needy the the sum of £150. The Bengal ship *Oxford* arrived February 11.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. MARCH 2, 1754. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *pp.* 99—109 (*Original* 11 *pp.*)]

The English Squadron for India under the command of Charles Watson, Rear-Admiral of the Blue, is composed of the *Kent* (Henry Speke, 64 guns), *Eagle* (George Pocock, 60 guns), *Salisbury* (Thomas Knowles, 50 guns), *Bristol* (Thomas Latham, 50 guns), *Bridgewater* (William Martin, 24 guns), and *Kingfisher* sloop (Best Mihell). His Majesty's land forces on the men-of-war and on the Company's ships *Kent, London* and *Britannia*, consist of Adlercron's regiment 815 strong, with a detachment of 78 men and officers from the Royal Artillery under Captain-Lieutenant William Hislop. These troops will be embarked at Cork under the supervision of Henry Crabb Boulton, one of the Directors. Any ill-treatment of the Military on the Company's ships should be properly reported. The Rear-Admiral should be saluted with 15 guns; and the Commodore, in his absence, with 13 guns. Due respect should be shown to all Naval officers and all possible help given them. During Admiral Watson's stay in India, he should

be allowed 5 Pags. a day to meet house-rent and table charges. For sums advanced to Commanders for procuring stores, provisions, etc., bills should be taken, at 6*s*. 6*d*. a weighty dollar, payable at 30 days' sight, drawn on the Commissioners of the Navy or on the Commissioners for Victualling. All Squadron accounts should be duly adjusted with the proper officers to avoid future troubles. A similar course should be adopted in the case of His Majesty's land forces. Colonel Adlercron and his officers should be treated with politeness, and special care taken to promote good feelings between the King's and Company's troops. Adlercron is to receive 5 Pags. a day for house-rent and table charges. As it will be a hardship for His Majesty's officers and men to serve for less pay than the Company's, authorize payment to the former, on the Company's account, of allowances equal to the differences between their pay and that of Company's people; viz., Captains at 2*s*. a day, Lieutenants, Ensigns and the Adjutant at 1*s*., Serjeants, etc., at 2*d*. each. In the Royal Artillery, the First and Second Lieutenants are to receive 1*s*. a day each, Lieutenant-Fireworkers 8*d*., and cadets and gunners 2*d*. Suitable barracks should be provided for them. Artillery officers should be furnished with boats and crews, and provided with convenient magazines and store-houses. The French have transmitted a new project of the Treaty between the two Companies in answer to that concerted in England with the French Commissaries. Conferences have begun again, but the Company cannot judge what the issue is likely to be. Send copies of the French and English projects. At a Conference held at Whitehall on February 19, at which Holdernesse and Anson met Chauncy, Drake, Burrow, Mabbott, and Alexander Hume on behalf of the Company, it was resolved that the English in India should only act as auxiliary and carefully avoid direct hostilities against the French. At the present crisis when there is no knowing how events may shape themselves, the Company's affairs must be left to the 'integrity, judgment, and circumspection' of the Council. Accordingly appoint Thomas Saunders, George Pigot, Lieutenant-Colonel Caroline Frederick Scott, Lieutenant-Colonel Stringer Lawrence, Henry Powney, Robert Orme, Alexander Wynch and William Percival or any three of them to form a Select Committee to transact the Company's affairs with the Country and all European powers, and to concert all military plans in consultation with His Majesty's Naval and Military Commanders, but to spend no money without the consent of the majority of the Council. The

Committee is to meet twice a week or oftener; its proceedings are to be recorded separately and kept secret. Henry Vansittart is appointed Secretary. Repeat instructions for employing the transports *Kent*, *London* and *Britannia*. If one or two of them are sent to China they should be loaded with Bohea and Singlo tea and Chinaware for flooring. Among other articles consigned by the transports are 40 chests of treasure to be employed in case 2 of them should be sent to China. Are well informed that the Commanders of Company's ships employed in Country voyages fill them unreasonably with their own private trade. Hence the backwardness of people to freight Company's ships. The Council should note that the Company has a right not only to the chartered tonnage, but to the whole actual tonnage less 3 % allowed to officers on their privilege. Have permitted the Commanders of the transports to carry 35 or 40 pounds' worth of trading guns, shot and flints, to be disposed of for provisions in case they touch at Madagascar, but otherwise to be delivered to the Council at Madras. The 'orlopes' on board the transports are to be taken over at prime-cost. Consign to Madras by the transports 110 tons of iron and 100 tons of lead.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. MARCH 13, 1754. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *p.* 113 (*Original* 1 *p.*)]

Colonel Adlercron is entitled to a salute of 13 guns on landing at Madras or any other settlement. As Commander-in-Chief of all His Majesty's land forces in India, he should be shown all due honours.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. MARCH 15, 1754. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *pp.* 115—118 (*Original* 4 *pp.*).]

Cite despatches of February 15 and March 2. This accompanies Major Heron and Robert Orme on the Bombay ship *Warren* which also brings stores, etc., for His Majesty's forces which could not be laded on the transports. She is to be despatched to Bombay as quickly as possible in order that she may serve as the annual ship from thence to Canton in the next season. She may carry to Bombay woolen goods not saleable at Madras. The recruits aboard her, though intended for Bombay, may be detained if necessary. Send by her for delivery to Stringer Lawrence, the King's

commission, dated February 26, 1754, as Lieutenant-Colonel; the sword to be presented to him in Council with a copy of the Company's resolution, dated February 6; and also Fox's letter permitting Alexander Heron to enter the Company's service on resigning his rank in the Army as Lieutenant-Colonel. Have appointed John Fabry, Andrew Crotty, and Stephen Smith, Cadets, in which rank they are to receive pay as Serjeant. Send a copy from the original French, of the French Company's observations upon the English and French projects; also powers and instructions for holding courts-martial in the East Indies under the Act passed in this Session of Parliament.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. LONDON, MARCH 15, 1754. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *pp.* 119—122 (*Original* 4 *pp.*)]

To keep the Company's troops in the same discipline as the King's, Parliament has passed an Act for punishing mutiny and desertion among the Company's troops. The power of appointing courts-martial is vested in the Commander-in-Chief of the King's forces so long as those forces are employed on the Coast. The Court of Directors have power to authorize the President and Council to appoint courts-martial at the settlement, and to authorise them to empower the Commander of any detachment to do the like while away from the settlement. Enclose copies of the Act and Articles of War; the King's commission authorising Colonel Adlercron or the Commander-in-Chief to appoint courts-martial; the Company's commission authorising the President and Council and the Company's Commanders to convene them; form of appointment of the Judge-Advocate and instructions for the same; and form of proceedings of the courts-martial. The Act and the Articles should be published with due solemnity; and every one in the company's troops must be given the option of continuing in service subject to these Articles of War; those who are unwilling must be dismissed. The original warrant is to be kept by the Council and a certified copy furnished to Colonel Adlercron. Courts-martial are convened by the Judge-Advocate under verbal instructions from the Commander. Procedure laid down may be varied if necessary, but not so as to contravene the Act and Articles of War. Copies of proceedings of all courts-martial must be sent home.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. EAST INDIA HOUSE. APRIL 3, 1754. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *pp.* 123—126 (*Original* 4 *pp.*)]

Have now better hopes of a definitive treaty between the English and French Companies in Europe. Pending its conclusion, a provisional treaty should be entered into with the French Company's Agents in India for a cessation of arms, on condition that neither side should make any cessions until a definitive treaty has been made in Europe. The projects of the Europe treaty will furnish sufficient data for framing a provisional treaty which should clearly stipulate that the French should restore to the Moors Masulipatam and Diu Island with their dependencies, and the grants in the Deccan and the Carnatic, or in case they choose to retain Masulipatam, Diu Island should be left to the English. The Select Committee will conduct negotiations for the provisional treaty, but if the French should appoint Commissaries for the purpose, Lieutenant-Colonel Scott, Lieutenant-Colonel Lawrence, Orme, Percival and Palk, are to be Commissaries for the English, with Vansittart as Secretary. These should be under the orders of the Select Committee and keep a regular account of their proceedings. If the French should appoint Commissaries of a superior rank to those named, the English should do the same. The negotiations are to be conducted at a neutral place. The Commis saries or the Select Committee should not conclude any provisional treaty without the approval of the Council. All their proceedings should be regularly sent home, to assist the Company to make a definitive treaty. Although the Company disapproved of Palk's being Commissary in the Army, have included him among the Commissaries to treat of peace, owing to his knowledge of French and Latin, and his acquaintance with the political situation. As soon as the *Warren* arrives at Madras, Bombay should be informed by pattamars of the probable date of her despatch, so that a convoy may be sent to protect her from Angria's fleet. Have appointed John Laverock cadet, in which rank he is to receive pay as serjeant. The *Cumberland* (66 guns) and the *Tyger* (60 guns) will shortly follow the English Squadron to take the place of the *Eagle* and *Bristol* which were disabled by bad weather. Prescribe the method of drawing bills for sums advanced by the Company to the detachment of the Royal Artillery under Captain Hislop.

LETTERS FROM HENRY CRABB BOULTON (ONE OF THE DIRECTORS) TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC. CORK. MARCH 25, AND 29, 1754. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *pp.* 133-135 *and* 255—257 (*Original* 4 *pp.*)]

Encloses abstract of 233 officers and private men of Colonel Adlercron's Regiment and of the detachment (54) of the Royal Artillery, embarked on the Company's ships *Britannia* and *London.*

PROJECT OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH EAST INDIA COMPANIES, DELIVERED TO DUVELAER. NOVEMBER 8, 1753 [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *pp.* 303—308 (*Copy* 6 *pp.*); *also Miltary Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *pp.* 71—77 (*Copy* 7 *pp.*)]

As a result of their alliances with the Country powers, disputes have arisen between the English and French Companies on the Coromandel coast, leading to hostilities, in spite of the peace subsisting between England and France. The following articles are therefore agreed upon :—

1. All hostilities shall cease. The Companies shall confine themselves to commerce and shall not take sides in any dispute arising among the Country powers.

2. Orders shall immediately be sent out to stop all hostilities; and, as soon as the Nawab accedes to the agreement, all troops shall be with drawn into the respective territories of the Companies.

3. All prisoners shall be restored. The English will if desired use their good offices with Muhammad Ali Khan to procure the release of prisoners taken by him and entrusted to their care. All guns taken to be restored; and deserters may return to their former service on condition of paying any debts they have contracted.

4. Trade shall be carried on on the same footing as before 1744.

5. Muhammad Ali Khan shall be recognized as the Nawab of Arcot by both the Companies. The French shall never support the cause of any rival either directly or indirectly. Chunda Sahib's family must not be allowed to remain at Pondichery or in any other French settlement. The Nawab shall protect the Companies in the possession of their territories.

6. The Viceroy of the Deccan, the Nawab of Arcot and the King of Tanjore shall be invited to accede to this agreement; and on the Nawab's doing so, all places in the province of Arcot in the possession of either Company shall be restored to him, except their ancient possessions and the Poonamallee country, Villiyanallur and Valudavur (See article 8.)

7. The Bahur fort shall be pulled down and its territory restored to the Moors.

8. The French shall hold Pondichery with its ancient territories and the districts of Villiyanallur and Valudavur, and the English shall extend their territories in the Poonamallee country to the same degree as the French extend theirs round Pondichery.

9. In Tanjore, the English shall hold Devikottai and the French may possess Nagore.

10. Divi Island and Masulipatam shall be evacuated by whichever Company is in possession of them and be delivered up to the Moors. All fortifications recently raised shall be demolished unless the Moors desire any to be retained. The two Companies may, without prejudice to the existing rights of other European Companies, establish factories at Masulipatam, but shall not keep more troops there than may be agreed upon as absolutely necessary for their protection.

11. The two Companies shall apply to their respective Sovereigns for a ratification of this agreement.

MEMORIAL OF OBSERVATIONS ON THE ENGLISH PROJECT BY THE FRENCH COMPANY. PARIS. FEBRUARY 4, 1754. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *pp.* 325—339. (*Copy of translation,* 15 *pp.*); *translation also in Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *pp.* 87—101.]

The French company are willing to make sacrifices to secure peace on the Coromandel coast, but cannot agree to the English project as it contains provisions which injure the dignity of the French. They have been obliged therefore to draw up a new project. This memorial is intended to show the defects of the English project. The stipulation in the English project, article 1, that neither Company should interfere in Moorish disputes, should form the basis of the agreement. Under articles 1 and 2 of the English project, the Nawab of Arcot could prevent the Company's forces being withdrawn into their territories merely by refusing to accede; and as the English control the Nawab they would remain masters of peace or war in defiance of the treaty. The other stipulation in the articles that troops shall withdraw into their respective territories, is a very inconvenient course inasmuch as it involves an instantaneous surrender of all conquests without any assurance from the Moorish Princes that they will accede to the treaty. The stipulation in article 3 causes much offence. Why should the French alone be asked to surrender their conquests to the Nawab,

while the Nawab is not bound to surrender the prisoners and guns taken from them? This is an unheard of stipulation, and the French will certainly neither cease hostilities nor give up Gingee until the return of their prisoners and artillery is agreed to. The stipulations regarding the use of good offices by the English are unbecoming. As to article 5 regarding recognition of Muhammad Ali Khan as the Nawab of Arcot, this is directly contrary to the principle of non-interference. It is the Viceroy of the Deccan or the Moghal Emperor, and not the Companies, who should determine which Indian Prince is the lawful Nawab of Arcot. Whatever the right may be possession is a clear matter. So the only Nawab which Companies as traders should recognize is the reigning Nawab. Consequently so long as Muhammad Ali Khan continues as Nawab, the French will not attempt to revenge their wrongs upon him. But in case he should be dispossessed, neither Company shall attempt to reinstate him. If the English insist on a continuance of war, the French would rather continue to fight Muhammad Ali Khan than any other prince on his behalf. If Muhammad Ali Khan were dispossessed, it would no doubt be advantageous to the French, but the English would find their advantage in escaping from a war which otherwise they would have to carry on against the French and all the Country powers. The French Company mean Muhammad Ali by the Nawab of Arcot, but his name should not occur in a treaty that is to be communicated to other Country powers. Similarly the name of Chunda Sahib should also be omitted. As a strong proof of their good disposition towards Muhammad Ali, they have agreed to surrender Gingee, etc., and they cannot make any more concessions. As regards the 10th article of the English project, how far the French are anxious for peace may be clearly seen from the sacrifice they are ready to make in surrendering such important places as Masulipatam and Divi Island to the Moors, in exclusion of all other European nations. But the French cannot admit the English claim to the Divi Island. No titles have ever been produced and the French hold a letter from the Governor of Madras to the Subahdar of the Deccan applying for a grant of it. The terms used regarding Masulipatam in the English project are too obscure to pass. The French can make no further concessions for peace than the surrender of these two places.

A new project is therefore necessary. The first article of the French project relates to the cessation of hostilities. The troops are to be withdrawn into the territories actually held, so that the

evacuations may be deferred till the Nawab has performed his share in the treaty. Article 2 is designed to secure a good harmony in India. The principle of non-interference is taken from the English project. The formal disavowal of disturbing Indian Princes in their governments prevents the French from supporting any rival of Muhammad Ali. The observation of this article would have prevented all the hostilities which have taken place. The sincerity of the French is further proved by their renunciation of the command of the country from the Kistna to Cape Comorin granted to Dupleix. Article 3 relates to the places to be held in Tanjore and the Carnatic. Poonamallee has been omitted because the French do not know how far it is from Fort St. George. Gingee and Trichinopoly are specifically mentioned as being keys of the province of Arcot. Article 4 relates to the conditions on which the restitution shall be made to the Nawab of Arcot. Equal treatment of the Companies by the Nawab has been stipulated with a view to prevent any one Company from gaining undue advantages. Article 5 relates to the renunciation of Masulipatam and Divi Island. It is made on the understanding that they should never hereafter be possessed by any European nation. Article 7 provides measures to be taken in case conventions have been made in India. The stipulations made in Europe relating to the mutual interests of the two Companies shall have the preference of any agreements made in India contrary thereto. But all engagements made in India with regard to the Moors ought to be maintained, because these cannot be annulled without endangering the peace. By the separate article peace may be established between the two Companies independently of the accession of the Country powers. The project has been drawn so as to make it clear that both the Companies are anxious to secure peace. The French are prepared to make many sacrifices without demanding one from the English. If therefore their proposals are not accepted, the continuation of war cannot be charged upon them.

PROJECT OF A CONVENTION BETWEEN THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH EAST INDIA COMPANIES, RECEIVED FROM DUVELAER, FEBRUARY 12, 1754. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *pp.* 309—316 *(French copy); and pp.* 317—324 *translation appended; translation also in Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *pp.* 79—85.]

1. All hostilities shall cease. All troops in the Carnatic shall be recalled. All prisoners and guns taken shall be restored. For the present and in future, deserters of each nation shall on demand

be restored on condition that their lives shall be spared. (If the English Company do not agree to a cartel for the future, article 3 of the English project may be followed.) The Viceroy of the Deccan, the Nawab of Arcot, the King of Tanjore and other Country powers interested in the late troubles, shall be invited to ratify this convention, for which purpose copies thereof shall be sent to India as early as possible.

2. As the two Companies are resolved to maintain peace and harmony and to confine themselves to trade, they agree to avoid taking sides in any disputes between the Country powers, mutually to assist each other in opposing any interruption of trade, and to carry on commerce in their respective settlements on the same footing as before 1744. In consequence the two Companies renounce both now and in future any Moorish or Indian dignity which may give the officers in India any authority over the possessions of the Country powers.

3. In addition to their ancient possessions, in Tanjore the English may possess Devikottai and the French Nagore; and in the Carnatic, the French shall hold Villiyanallur and Valudavur; and the English shall hold an equal extent of territory round Fort St. George. All other possessions shall be restored to the Nawab of Arcot.

4. Under article 3, territories shall only be restored to the Nawab of Arcot in agreement with the arrangements which the Chiefs of the two Companies in India shall make for their evacuation. The French Company will only surrender the territory it holds after the liberation of the French prisoners and the restoration of the guns taken, and after the Nawab shall have acceded to the present treaty and agreed to restore any places he may have conquered from those who may have opposed him. Moreover he shall promise to treat both Companies impartially.

5. The French agree to evacuate the town of Masulipatam as several European nations possess factories there. It will also evacuate Divi Island, but it reserves to itself all the other concessions made to it in the Deccan. Neither Company shall maintain in their factories at Masulipatam more troops than are needed for protection.

6. The retrocessions of the several territories to the Country powers shall be made by the two Companies simultaneously after the destruction of all new fortifications.

7. In case the Country powers shall have come to any agreement, that agreement shall be carried out provided it does not

conflict with the present treaty. And in case the Governors of the two Companies have entered into any agreement which they unanimously consider to be more beneficial to the two Companies than the present treaty, they shall refer the same to Europe for settlement.

8. The two Companies shall apply to their respective Sovereigns for a ratification of this treaty.

Secret and separate article.

In case the Subahdar of the Deccan or the Nawab of Arcot refuses to ratify this convention, this shall not be made a pretext for delaying the evacuations herein agreed on, save that in no case shall Gingee be evacuated till all French prisoners and guns taken have been given up; but should the case foreseen in the present article arise, all fortifications in the territories to be evacuated shall be destroyed.

THE ENGLISH OBSERVATIONS ON THE FRENCH PROJECT OF A TREATY. NO DATE. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 57, *pp.* 341—345 *(Copy* 4½ *pp.); Copy also in Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *pp.* 103—106.]

It proposes that the Nawab shall deliver to the English all French prisoners and artillery to be handed over to the French as soon as they evacuate Gingee. By the second article a union is proposed between the Companies in terms which may be interpreted as involving an offensive and defensive alliance; the Chiefs in India should be left to decide when to act together. In article 3 an invidious distinction is made as regards the titles on which Devikottai and Nagore are held. The expedients proposed under article 1 apply to article 4 also. The English cannot admit the French claim in article 5 to the territory of over 12,724 square miles round Masulipatam. Its revenues would enable the French to crush the English. The cession of Masulipatam matters nothing so long as they hold the country round. In the past they endeavoured to get the English factories at Ingeram and Madapollam ruined. Unless the French are willing to confine themselves to their ancient limits, we had better continue the war. Throughout the French project, the names of Muhammad Ali Khan and Chunda Sahib are omitted. The explanation of this in the memorial is frivolous, while there is no doubt that in the War of the Austrian Succession Dupleix was the first aggressor against the Nawab.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1754-1755.

DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. NOVEMBER 10, 1754. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 20, *pp.* 1—51 (*Copy* 51 *pp.*)]

Cite despatches of February 7 and March 9. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches, dated November 28, December 19, 1753, January 23 and 31, February 15, March 2, 13 and 15, and April 3, 1754, and of letters from Henry Crabb Bolton, dated March 25 and 29, 1754.

Report arrivals and departures of the *St. George, Stafford, Triton, Onslow, Essex, True Briton, Ilchester, Montfort, Denham, York, Anson, Britannia, Warren, Winchelsea, London, Kent, Colchester,* and *Syren* and *Cuddalore* sloops. This goes by the *Norfolk.* The *Porto Bello* sloop has been kept on the Coast for use as an advice ship if necessary. As the *Brilliant* snow is believed lost, the *Prince George* is the only ship for Coast service. Have been obliged to complete the lading of ships with saltpetre owing to the calamities of the times. Are only able to lade the present ship now, and half a ship in January. An extra cargo will be provided by 250 tons of Sumatra pepper and Mocha coffee from Bombay. It is difficult to employ Company's ships in India at present, as the Country trade has suffered in the same way as the Company's, cloth being bad and dearer. Any ship remaining in India will have to be employed on the Company's account. As none would freight the *Kent, Britannia,* and *London,* they have been sent to Bengal for rice. The *Dragon* lost her passage. The surgeon, gunner and carpenter of the *Bombay Castle* have been sent to the Negrais. Saunders will reply to the letter from the Secret Committee.

Deficiencies in treasure have been made good. Only 2 out of the 3 cases containing parts of the powder-mill, have been received. Have received the 'orlopes' on 2 of the transports, but not the nails and planks as they have been used. Have landed 30 pipes of Madeira extra for the special use of the junior servants. It has been issued to them at 52 Pags. a pipe, while at outcry it was sold at 67½ Pags. The capacity of a pipe of wine is said to be 115 gallons, but on measurement it was found to hold no more than 111⅜ gallons. As to badness of redwood, suspect that the better

sorts are picked out and sold to Macao ships and private traders for China; have forbidden any sale to private persons. Enclose an estimate of the cost of the Coast services. All the treasure consigned to Bengal has been forwarded. Have been unable to sell all the broadcloth; and the market has been bad in Bengal also. Request to be supplied with no more than can be helped. Lead and iron sold for 13 Pags., and copper for 88 Pags. per candy. Have consigned to Bengal the lead and iron by the *London* and *Britannia* and the timber and planks by the *Colchester* and *Porto Bello*, as they find better sale there. Purchased 2,542 bags of saltpetre at the Bengal price from Captain Durand (master of a Country ship). Have accepted a bill for 24,000 Spanish dollars from the supercargoes at Mocha, and have drawn on Bombay for the amount. Have sent 20 coffree male slaves to Sumatra. Enclose Assay-master's letter. A bag containing 984 oz. of silver 'said to be estimates' is 2½ dwts. worse than usual. It having been usual for a candy to vary according to the kind of merchandise, have fixed the weight of it. Captain Greenville's treasure may have been overcarried for want of proper instructions, but the Sea Customer will in future see that everything mentioned in the manifest is landed and put in the warehouse till claimed. Enclose a list of books desired for the Company's servants, and request as many more on all other parts of literature as may be thought fit.

Deficiencies, etc., in goods have been made good by persons responsible. Have tried our best to improve the cloth and to lower the price; but as 'our rivals in trade' take in all sorts of cloth, we are doing the same but at a reduced price. Cannot provide 'sicashes' for it is not known what they are; the merchants are providing 'siccatoons'. Are much concerned to see that the Company is dissatisfied with the method of investment. The practice always has been to invite the most substantial merchants to take up the investment which they did, less for profit than for the 'gratification of a peculiar vanity' of being considered Company's merchants. 'The wearing of a long coat, a couple of peons with the Company's badges and other little marks of distinction,' are privileges on which they set a high value. Benyon will confirm this. As there is a lack of substantial men in Black Town ever since the loss of Madras, have been obliged to contract with the old merchants. While the troubles continue it is not possible to reduce the price, and all that can be done is to influence the merchants to bring in as much cloth as possible. The method of

giving the investment to the best bidders will however be followed, though it will probably render a considerable balance uncertain should petty merchants undertake the investment. Are enquiring about the possibility of a cloth investment at Devikottai. Cannot provide much cloth either at Madras or Fort St. David. The Marathas have devastated the Northern parts, so that little can be expected thence. Three months' suspension of arms may assist matters.

The affairs at the Negrais have not improved. Taylor has returned here sick; Knapton has gone sick to Bengal; Lieutenant Bilhock's life is despaired of; the doctor is very ill; and few men are capable of duty. The selection of a marshy site surrounded by woods perhaps accounts for this. The north-east point is said to be healthy. Persaine is decidedly healthier but is 70 miles up the river. In April last, an agreement was made with the deputies of the Uppu Raja by which the English would receive the Negrais and a settlement at Persaine with a district round it; but it has not yet been ratified. Have sent the King of Pegu and Uppu Raja palankins, etc., as presents. Brooke should however cultivate friendship with the Burmese also as they might defeat the Peguers at any time. Will send by the January ship the plans of the Negrais and Persaine.

The fortifications at Madras and Fort St. David will be carried on by Engineer John Brohier. The Devikottai fort has been repaired. Have sanctioned the construction of a wall from the flag-staff on Martin's battery to 'Tonary's' [Tournery's] battery at Vizagapatam; and Thomas Heath is in charge of the work. The powder-house is almost finished, and the powder-mill which produces 500 lbs. a day is under John de Rose, a German skilled in powder-making. The machine will be set up in another place. Lieutenant Bishop will supervise both. Have appointed a Committee to consider the purchase of materials for the works. The assessment proposed by the Company would prevent inhabitants from settling at Madras. It was considered that the letting of the Madras farms, on the re-establishment of the Presidency, at the full amount they were ever let for, was a successful piece of work; and regret that the Company disapproves. In future they shall be sold in accordance with the Company's orders. Have remitted 8,882 Pags. to the renters of Tiruvendipuram. Arrears of Madras farms are irrecoverable. The Chintadripet people pray for the abolition of the pagoda duty, on their discharging the Company's

debts. Have abolished the tax on imports and exports for the up-keep of the Chicacole choultry. The refund of consulage paid on exporting rice from Bengal will reduce the sea-customs collected at Madras. The Poonamallee country has been rented for 44,000 Pags. or 9,000 more than the previous year. The Nawab has mortgaged to the English 6 countries contiguous to Madras which are farmed as follows:—Poonamallee kille for 4,200 Pags.; the Seven Maganams for 20,000 Pags.; Manimangalam for 14,000 Pags.; Covelong for 8,000 Pags.; and Chingleput for 26,000 Pags. Have also secured a Jaghir of 14 villages, hitherto attached to the Killedar of Poonamallee, on conditions that we maintain peons for keeping peace and that we allow 1,000 Pags. a year to his widow. Have accepted the privilege of a *nawbat* and music on condition of receiving villages to meet the charges. Propose that one of the confiscated houses may be set apart to accommodate visitors and covenanted servants on their first arrival, as they are now obliged to stay in a punch-house.

For the safety of your settlement on this Coast, have detained the officers and soldiers intended for Bengal and Bombay and also received further reinforcement of soldiers and sepoys from those places. They will be returned as soon as the troubles are over. The Swiss recruits have been allotted to the 3 companies under Captains Polier, Schaub and Gaupp. The Captains claim clothing profit on their full complement of men. Enclose correspondence on the subject. Saunders and Lawrence are sensible of the Company's esteem; there is now a perfect harmony between them. Pigot arrived here from Vizagapatam on October 16. Regarding the fraud said to have been attempted by two of the councillors, it was a malicious report against Cooke and Smith, made by John Moor, the carpenter, who was dissatisfied with the reduction of his pay. Have employed Palk, though Chaplain, as Paymaster for the Army and afterwards as Deputy at Sadras, because of his capacity and prudence. As he has been very serviceable, especially in the negotiations at Tanjore, and as it was expected that he would be employed again, he has been presented with a diamond ring worth 1,000 Pags. On being relieved by Major Heron, Lawrence returned into garrison. Have delivered him the commission and presented him with the sword for which he returns his thanks. Colonel Scott on arrival declined the command of the Army. He died of fever shortly after landing. On hearing our distress for an officer, Sir James Foulis voluntarily came round [from Bombay]. Recommend Captain Grierson, master

of the *Porto Bello*, for good conduct. Have recommended frugality to the Company's servants. None under a factor keeps horse, chaise or palankin. On enquiry into their morals, none appears to merit reproach. Dawsonne Drake under the plea of ill-health refuses to relieve Walsh in Sumatra; he has once before refused to go thither; he will be suspended if he does not go in January. As Warehouse-keeper at Fort St. David, Cooke has neglected to re-sort the goods before packing, and on being made responsible for the loss, he refused to attend to his duties and has been suspended. Have replaced him as Second at Fort St. David, by Charles Turner, although Samuel Ardley was senior in rank. Pybus remains in sole charge of Sumatra. Pigot, Orme and Percival have taken their seats in Council. Charles Boddam is appointed Chief of Vizagapatam; John Lewin Smith as Second; and Marmaduke Best as Third there. Have appointed Henry Powney Import Warehouse-keeper and Sea-Customer; Robert Orme Export Warehouse-keeper and Accountant and Commissary to keep the Nawab's accounts; Alexander Wynch Store-keeper; the last three contractors for supplying provisions to the Army; William Percival Land-Customer; John Smith Paymaster and Military Paymaster; Charles Bourchier Military Store-keeper, Rental-General and Scavenger; Dawsonne Drake Upper-Searcher; and John Walsh Under-Searcher at the Sea-gate. Henry Vansittart is Secretary to the Select Committee. Richard Fairfield has gone to Fort St. David as Councillor, and James Alexander takes his place as Sub-Accountant. John Browning has been appointed Register of the Sea-gate *vice* Charles Turner. On Palk's return, Andrew Newton was appointed Resident at Tanjore. Samuel Banks died August 10; and Peter St. Paul, April 29. Captain James Killpatrick was made a Major on July 20, to take Lawrence's place as Commander of the Company's forces. Granted Captain's commissions to—John Innes (March 25), Joseph Smith (March 26), James Spears (April 22), George Beaver (August 27), and Alexander Callender (October 7); Lieutenant's commissions to—John North (March 25), Daniel Campbell (March 26), John Fraser (March 27), Andrew Craig (April 22), and William Bishop (September 30); and Ensign's commissions to—John Clarke (March 25), George Airey (March 26), Bryan Scottney (April 22), Simon Hart (April 23), John Henry Meyers (June 17), and Joseph Darke (June 18). Captain Timothy Bridge of the Bengal establishment acts as Adjutant at Madras. Among the Swiss, Claud Phillip Lullin was promoted Second Lieutenant of Gaupp's company,

April 8; Ferdinand Jaegar as Ensign of Gaupp's company (June 10); Daniel Frischman de Basle as Ensign of Schaub's company, April 8. In the Artillery, Lieutenant Benjamin Godwin was appointed Quartermaster, March 25; the Troop of Horse is commanded by Lieutenant David Baron de Vasserot of Captain Zeigler's company. Caroline Frederick Scott died May 12; and Captain John Crompton March 24. Captain Benjamin Pigou was killed before Trichinopoly, August 17. Captain Donald Campbell has resigned his commission and returns to Europe. Lieutenant John Harrison was promoted Captain Lieutenant April 22, and died June 29; Lieutenant Thomas Brown died September 25; and Ensign John Conrad Heydecker is dead. Intend to deprive Lieutenant Stephen Augustus de Monchanin of his commission, for protesting to Colonel Lawrence in the field on supersession by officers from Europe. Tyso Saul Hancock, long employed as surgeon at Fort St. David and other subordinate settlements, should succeed James Wilson. Enclose a general return of the military and a list of covenanted servants. Although the number of the latter is what used to be considered a full supply, it is now necessary to employ monthly writers as well. Desire 6 or 8 more. Refer to Consultations of October 24 for perquisites attached to the several posts. Trust that the Company won't deprive them of these emoluments. It is only after long and faithful services at considerable sacrifice of health and comforts that Company's servants reach posts of emoluments. A decent living costs a man 1,098 Pags. a year—

Palankin and horse	132
Dhoby and barber	36
Dubash, cook, etc.	30
House expenses.	480
Dress	150
Liquors	90
House-rent	180

The allowances of junior servants are scarcely enough to feed and clothe them as well as common soldiers; and for any comforts, they have to depend upon their friends. Though fortunes have lately been acquired they have been 'got out of the common road.' Those who have misrepresented us have done so out of selfish motives.

The book of Standing Orders has been brought up to date. The omission to get the Consultations signed was due to pressure

of work and lack of writers. Consider that Shawmier Sultan's bond should be paid. Enclose a list of estates written off to account current London. Send extracts from Coja Petrus' will bequeathing the Vepery Church to Padre Severini. We consider he has a just title for it. Advances to Captain Roger Mainwaring. Have received 2,602 Pags. of Empson's property. Have taken security for 2,592 Pags. due from John Stratton.

Sumatra affairs.

Richard Fairfield on being appointed to Fort St. David resigned his place as Alderman and the Mayor's Court accepted the resignation. It is not clear whether the Court can do this. The Mayor's Court have tried to insist on carrying into execution a sentence delivered by the old Court, against which the defendants Haji Abd-ullah Hadi Sahib and Pallum Kutti Chetti had appealed. They therefore claim the right to appeal to the new Court of Appeals. The Court of Appeals hold that the former appeal is still pending and that the Mayor's Court cannot proceed in the case. The Mayor's Court reply that the Court of Appeals can do nothing because all the former proceedings are lost. Disclaim the least intention of exceeding the legitimate authority of Council as the Court of Appeals.

His Majesty's ships *Kent*, *Salisbury*, *Bridgewater* and *King Fisher* and the Company's transports arrived at Fort St. David about the middle of September. His Majesty's troops were landed in good health. The surgeons were refused head-money for want of a precedent. Due honours were shown to Admiral Watson and Colonel Adlercron.

Supplement: Bombay cannot help in the disposal of Madras broadcloth, as they still have a large quantity unsold and as they expect twice what they indented for. Captain Bonham requests that the deficiency of 33 coils of cordage may be adjusted in England. Have ordered the payment to the heirs of David Hunter of the sums of 2,000 Rs. and 110 Pags. which he had disbursed on the Company's account but not entered in the books. Recommend that another Rs. 2,000, his private money which he lost in the coffree insurrection, may be paid to his heirs in consideration of his services. Have laden 1,361 bales and 200 tons of saltpetre, valued at 153,600 Pags. Diamonds, etc., registered amount to 184,151 Pags. Captain Bonham's private trade amounts to 5,951 Pags. Have in Cash 7,372 current Pags., and 506 Madras Pags.; and in the Treasury, 11,708 pounds of silver, 752,031 Arcot Rs.,

3,235 Madras Rs. and 176,000 current Pags. Lieutenant William Bishop died this morning.

Postscript: Bills drawn on the Company amount to 1,078 Pags.; and the certificates to 698 Pags.

Appended are:—(1) register of diamonds, etc.; (2) manifest of private trade, and (3) list of the packets.

SEPARATE [?] DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. NOVEMBER 10, 1754.

[*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 19, *pp.* 69—80 (*Copy* 11½ *pp.*), *Damaged; also The French in India, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 129—145. (*India Office transcript.*)]

The effects of the destruction of the escort at Trichinopoly already reported were almost fatal. The fort was ill-provisioned. The troops were few in number, obliged almost daily to go foraging, and almost surrounded by a superior enemy. They only escaped destruction by the gallantry of the officers and the bravery of the men. Captain Polier was wounded in an action to protect a convoy; but Captain Caillaud who succeeded to the command bravely made his way through with his supplies. The King of Tanjore had withdrawn his troops; and the most persuasive arguments were used to induce him to rejoin the English; his general Manoji repulsed the Marathas after they had plundered a part of Tanjore; but he continued wavering, terrified by the threats and promises of Mysore, Morari Rao, and the French, although averse to the Mysorean acquisition of Trichinopoly. Palk was sent to Tanjore to urge the ill-consequences of his inactivity; Lawrence marched and camped near the capital; and this roused him to resolve to join the Nawab. But soon afterwards the Tanjore leader, Gadi Rao, was surprised by the Marathas near Tirukkattuppalli and suffered considerable loss. This delayed matters while fresh troops were being levied. Meanwhile the English drafted every man that could be spared from Arcot, Chingleput and Madras, to Devikottai under Captain Pigou, who joined Lawrence at Tanjore. Part of the reinforcements sent from Bombay were also sent to Devikottai; the rest however were detained to be joined with the recruits ready to be sent into the field, and despatched under Captain Forbes to Conjeveram, where they were to march with Mahfuz Khan who had a considerable body of horse. However the latter wasted time with excuses, even after he had been given half a lakh of rupees with the promise of another

half lakh when he reached Devikottai. So Forbes was at last ordered to proceed without him. Mahfuz Khan followed sometime after, and on the Coleroon was attacked by the enemy who captured his baggage and some men. Lawrence, after collecting a large store of provisions, marched to Trichinopoly, drove the French off by a short cannonade, threw most of his stores into the Fort, and a few days later, forced the enemy across the Cauveri. In the Arcot country the English have had a subaltern with a party of men in the field to prevent raids. There have also been skirmishes round Chidambaram—a place occupied by the French and which threatens our communications with Devikottai. These are all the military operations that took place, up to the suspension of arms. The French are said to be recalling their troops from Srirangam. The Nawab's army will probably march to Fort St. David as soon as Trichinopoly is provisioned.

The Moghal has been dethroned by the son of Ghazi-ud-din Khan, he and his mother blinded, and his uncle proclaimed Emperor.

Salabat Jang came no further south than Hyderabad. It is said that his troops are few and ill-paid, and he himself short of money. Bussy, having left a few troops behind, has gone to Rajahmundry to collect the rents of the provinces 'said to be mortgaged to him for 24 lakhs.' He has farmed these out to Vijayaram Raz for 18 lakhs; but as the districts were plundered by the Marathas, nothing much has yet been collected. 'A dispute between Jafar Ali Khan and Viziaramrazu was improved by the French to turn them out and possess the government themselves.' The incursion of the Marathas was brought about by Jaffar Ali Khan. Vijayaram Raz is with the French, severely repenting his entanglement with them. Both he and Jaffar Ali have asked for English help; and if possible this will be given. It was expected that Balaji Rao would have visited the Carnatic; but he came no nearer than Mysore where he levied a valuable contribution. Should he come into the Carnatic, cannot say which side he will take, for a Maratha always chooses the side on which he will get most. The Nawab and the King of Tanjore made an agreement with Morari Rao to leave the French and go home, for which Tanjore would pay him three lakhs and the Nawab would make him certain grants. That was some time ago, but he marches slowly, raising contributions on his way, and has only got as far as Polur. Doubt much whether he will continue his march. He

has offered to join the English for 1¼ lakhs a month; but this is more than can be afforded. The French are said to owe him 9 lakhs; so expect there will be no reconciliation with them, unless the King of Mysore finds the money. Morari Rao wishes the English to guarantee this treaty with the Nawab; but, as Eastern princes 'make such terms in adversity as they never mean to observe in prosperity,' shall try to avoid doing so. The Nawab is distressed, the English his only help, and his debt great. The Company will see what districts have been taken over as security. Will obtain more as favourable opportunities occur. The English have every claim on the Nawab's gratitude, and, should his affairs prosper, Council believes they may rely on his friendship. The King of Tanjore acts as justly 'as Eastern politicks allow.' Both French and English have settlements in his kingdom, and should the King of Mysore get Trichinopoly, he would become a dangerous neighbour. Hence the irresolution in the Tanjore policy: he seems to distrust the English less than either of the other powers; but 'his unsteady motions must be carefully watched.' The King of Mysore is regarded as the richest and most powerful Prince that pays tribute to the Moghal; but in spite of his extensive territory, 'ambition and avarice prompted him to his scheme on Trichinopoly.' The King is young, and all the power lies in the hands of the Dalaway, whose brother commands the Mysore troops at Srirangam. The expedition has cost great sums; but though the Mysoreans are reputed tenacious, they have been beaten so often, and trust the French so little, that they would have withdrawn long ago but that the Dalaway's brother fears for his life should he acknowledge his defeat by withdrawal. Murtaza Ali Khan 'who has had the address to murder two Nawabs and go unpunished,' is called by Dupleix his Deputy. He has acknowledged the Nawab, and, being an artful, dangerous man, cannot be trusted, but should not be made into an enemy.

Have received the several projects for a treaty; and will follow them in the negotiations with Godeheu, who reached Pondichery July 30. On August 1 he wrote to Saunders announcing his arrival, and proposing a suspension of arms. The English agreed and suggested the exchange of views as the basis for a Conference. Godeheu seemed to hesitate as the French shipping arrived; but on the arrival of part of the English Squadron at Fort St. David, he agreed to a suspension of arms for 3 months from October 11. Then the English sent four proposals; and, after some inconclusive

correspondence, general proposals, which were answered by a memorial and proposals from Godeheu. There were considerable differences, principally in the French demand to retain their Northern grants. The Company had forbidden any cessation of arms without their abandonment; so the English invited Godeheu to state precisely what these grants were. He replied that he would reserve all such as could not be proved to be detrimental to the English and suggested a Conference. The English have suggested Sadras as the meeting place, and those named by the Company as Commissaries are to set out between November 15 and 20. The English will insist on discussing first the question of the Northern grants, as on that depends the possibility of coming to terms. Doubt whether the French will agree to both sides giving up all their new acquisitions and being content with their old grants and a moderate addition. They show no disposition to make sacrifices, as they call it. The only plan seems to be to offer English help to Salabat Jang on condition of receiving grants equal to those of the French; but that in the present state of affairs is hardly feasible. Unless peace should be concluded at home, the most vigorous measures must be taken to carry on the war.

His Majesty's ships *Kent*, *Salisbury*, *Bridgewater* and *King Fisher* have arrived; the *Cumberland* and *Tiger* are still expected. The Squadron was stationed at Fort St. David, and all necessary information was afforded to Watson. He was too unwell to visit Madras in person, but sent Captain Speke to confer with the Council. As it was thought essential that the Squadron should return to the Coast as early as possible, it was proposed that the capital ships should winter to the eastward and the smaller ones in the Hugli; but as Watson was ordered to Bombay, he sailed for that port on October 11 with the *Kent* and *Salisbury*, and ordered the *Bridgewater* and *King Fisher* to Bengal. His conduct indicates that he will afford all the assistance in his power.

Colonel Adlercron considers that his powers are more extensive than appears from the Company's despatches. He has sent a copy of the King's Instructions, where he is mentioned as 'Commander-in-Chief of the land-forces to be employed in the East Indies,' directed to take command of all the Company's forces on the Coast of Coromandel, and ordered to take the title of 'Commander-in-Chief of the troops of the East India Company' in correspondence with Foreign powers. He has refused to accept

or answer letters unless he is given this title; and has written to the Deputy Governor of Fort St. David that he can go no further than allow him to give the word of the day. In their despatch of March 2, 1754, the Company refers to him as 'Commander-in-Chief' and 'Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's land-forces,' and also mentions that it has appointed the Governor Commander-in-Chief [of the Company's troops]. The Council considered that harmony with the King's officers was essential to the Company's affairs, and desired Adlercron to visit Madras for a conference. He deputed Lieutenant-Colonel Bagshaw to come. Adlercron has agreed not to interfere with the Company's settlements or the garrisons in them till His Majesty's pleasure is known.

General discontent among all ranks of the King's troops regarding the allowances regulated by the Company. Adlercron protested that he had ordered his agent to stipulate for £1,000 a year. The 'gentleman cadets' especially were dissatisfied at receiving only 2 *d.* a day. When the Company's orders were represented to Bagshaw, he answered that the Company evidently meant to put the King's troops on the same footing as their own, but that this had not been done, doubtless for lack of information; that living was very expensive; and that harmony could not be expected while the King's troops were worse off than the Company's, especially as every officer knew what allowances were made to Boscawen's people. In consideration of the urgent need of harmony, have put the King's troops on the same footing as the Company's, in accordance with a regulation delivered in by Bagshaw, until the Company's pleasure is known. Trust that these proceedings will be approved.

Have heard nothing of any Emden ship yet; a private trader has arrived from Lisbon; hope the scheme will drop for lack of encouragement.

Dupleix attended Council only once after Godeheu's arrival, and that was to announce his departure for Europe. He embarked with his family on the *Duc d' Orléans*—it is not known whether he was under arrest. His schemes have certainly violated 'the laws of the Country government' and tended to ruin all European settlements; but if his policy is adopted by Godeheu, he will appear excusable in the eyes of the world.

Ten ships have reached Pondichery this year, of which 3 have been despatched to the Isles, it is believed, for Europe. The

French have received 2,500 recruits or more; and with their former forces and the prisoners in English hands, there must be 4,500 or 5,000 French soldiers. Believe all the Company's ships could bring out 60 or 80 men each; suggest that it would be better to send out recruits in the Company's service instead of King's troops. The Captains that have come out in the Company's service all say that they could have enlisted as many men as they pleased. The welfare of the English settlements depends on their military force. Desire as large a reinforcement as possible. The French have received near double the number of recruits that the English have received, even supposing that all the King's troops arrive.

DESPATCH FROM THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. JANUARY 12, 1755. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 20, *pp.* 73—78 (*Copy* 6 *pp.*)]

This is an additional despatch by the *Norfolk.* Reported in the first despatch that a provisional treaty was likely to be concluded. But to our great surprise, Godeheu declined, saying that he had advices from France of April 10 that Lord Holdernesse had told the Duke of Mirepoix that no Treaty could be negotiated in India and that the Companies are issuing fresh orders. The *Norfolk* was therefore ordered to be detained on the Coast till definite news could be sent. In order to bring matters to a crisis, proposed a truce (dependent on a provisional treaty) to continue till orders are received from Europe. Palk and Vansittart were sent in a private capacity to furnish any necessary explanations, and to require positive answer in 3 days. The proposals were accepted and when digested into regular form were signed. The Truce was proclaimed on the 1st January. Enclose copies of the Treaty, etc. The main considerations for making a Truce are the infinite superiority of the French force, their great influence with the Country powers, and the impossibility of a meret trading Company continuing to bear all expenses of war. If war had continued, the French by means of their cavalry could have protected their own territories and raided ours also; whereas we might have lost our own districts in attempting to seize theirs. Further, the revenues remaining in the Nawab's power will probably enable him to reduce his debt. Expect that the Company's investment both here, at Fort St. David and at Salem, will now revive and that the demand for imports from Europe will increase. All except the necessary garrisons in the Country forts will be ordered in; and

all batta stopped. The sepoys will be quartered in the Nawab's territories at his expense. The French prisoners will either be sent home or sent to Bombay or kept in garrisons at their charge. The Nawab and his family will be induced to reside at Arcot. On obtaining an estimate of his revenue, as large a part of it as possible will be applied to reduce his debts. Shall endeavour to avoid all disputes and appoint Commissaries to settle any that may arise. As the French keep a large force at Pondichery, the greater part of the King's troops will be at Fort St. David ready to take the field should there be any rupture. The Squadron will probably be on this Coast unless Bombay needs its services. Although a settlement of the disputes with Colonel Adlercron was arrived at when Lieutenant-Colonel Bagshaw came here, Adlercron subsequently disowned it; but on coming here to settle final operations, declared that he would not interfere in the Company's forts and garrisons. Since October, the French have marched a party of 180 Europeans to the North, and the English have ordered 400 soldiers and 1,500 sepoys from Trichinopoly to Fort St. David. His Majesty's ships *Cumberland and Tiger* arrived here on December 20, with sickly crews. The latter sailed to Fort St. David. Bombay and Bengal shipping news. The French ship *Magault* arrived from France at Mahé on October 17. The *Winchelsea* will be sent to the Coast from Bengal; but will not find more than 800 or 900 bales to take in. The Burmese are reported to have advanced as far as Prone and may probably recover their government. Enclose a cypher which when necessary will be used. Saunders tenders his thanks to the Company for its appreciation of his services. His ill-health compels him to return to Europe on this ship.

Appended are :—(1) a list of the packet; and (2) sailing orders to Captain Pinson Bonham of the *Norfolk.*

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. FEBRUARY 1, 1755. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 20, *pp.* 82—84 (*Copy* 3 *pp.*)]

This goes from Pondichery. Cite despatch of January 12 by the *Norfolk* which sailed on January 14. From the time of Godeheu's arrival negotiations for peace were going on, but it was only towards the end of September that a provisional Treaty for peace and a Truce were agreed on between the English and the French. Petty disputes have arisen about tributes due from the Trichinopoly poligars, but hope they will soon be settled without

embroiling ourselves with the French. Have stopped the batta in all out-garrisons and ordered the Army to come in after accompanying the Nawab to Arcot. Godeheu's reasons for returning to Europe immediately is to prevent others from hindering a final accommodation. The new Governor De Leyrit is expected shortly from Bengal. Meanwhile 'Bartholomew,' Second at Pondichery, will manage affairs. The Coast, Bay and China ships arrived and were duly despatched. Bombay and Bengal shipping news. The *Kent* and *Britannia* will bring rice from Bengal. His Majesty's ships *Kent*, *Salisbury*, *Bridgewater* and *King Fisher* sloop arrived safe on this Coast. To avoid the monsoon, the 2 former proceeded to Bombay and the 2 latter to Bengal. The *Kent* arrived here on January 17. The *Cumberland* and *Tiger* arrived here on December 20, with their crews sickly.

Appended is a list of the packets.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. MARCH 8, 1755. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 19, *pp.* 80—84 (*Copy* 4 *pp.*) *Damaged.*]

A provisional Treaty has been concluded with the French, as reported in the despatch of January 12. In order to reduce expenses have struck off all batta in the out-garrisons—at Arcot and Chingleput from February 1; at Trichinopoly from March 1. The French prisoners, formerly victualled at English expense, are now maintained from Pondichery. Of the bullocks collected at Fort St. David for His Majesty's Train, part have been returned to their former owners and the rest sold.

For the sake of the Nawab's revenues the Army has had to keep the field longer than was intended. The Madura and Tinnevelly poligars, who used to pay considerable sums to Trichinopoly, refused to pay their tribute though acknowledging that they held their governments by the Nawab's farmans. On February 4, ordered Colonel Heron to move towards Madura. Hope the poligars will submit on the first news of his march. Have desired the Nawab to order the poligars' tribute to be paid to Heron and the Nawab's Commissary jointly, to be applied to the payment of his debt. The Arcot poligars are also indebted to the Government, and similar measures are needed with them. Abd-ul Wahab Khan, the Nawab's brother, who is in charge of these parts, has applied for help; but as he is suspected of applying his collections to his private use, shall send none till the Nawab comes up, which he means to do when the Madura expedition is finished. As many complaints were

made by both the French and the Nawab of villages being seized after the suspension of arms, Saunders and Godeheu agreed to appoint Commissaries to investigate. They met at the beginning of February and the inquiry is proceeding. No agreement has yet been reached regarding a single village; the French seem disposed to protract matters, in order to keep possession as long as possible of villages they have no right to; shall insist on the revenues of the disputed villages being received by both parties jointly until the matter is settled.

Salabat Jang has moved south from Hyderabad with a large army, with both Bussy and Law. [*Passage wanting.*] [Morari Rao ?] who lately left the Arcot country seems disposed to return, and is trying to seize all the forts beyond Arcot which command the road from Gooty into the Carnatic. Shall endeavour to prevent this. The King of Tanjore is occupied in repairing the ravages suffered by his country. The Dalaway is still at Srirangam with a large body of horse. He can hardly hope to take Trichinopoly which now has provisions for near 12 months in store. But as it is 'the grand security for the Company's debt,' have ordered Heron to leave a garrison of 500 men there under Major Killpatrick, when the army marches up into this province. A cartel for the return of deserters has been arranged with the French, and a similar agreement is under discussion with the Dutch. [*Passage wanting.*] [After the exchange of prisoners ?] the Nawab will still have about 700 French men. Godeheu proposed their being sent to Europe, but as he would not agree to the English terms, the matter dropped.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE. MARCH 10, 1755. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 20, *pp.* 86—119 (*Copy* 34 *pp.*)]

Cite despatches of November 10, 1754, and January 12 and February 1, 1755. Bengal has sent grain, provisions and 161 work-people, etc., to the Negrais on the *Denham*. The *Britannia* arrived here from Bengal on February 7 with rice, and the *Kent* is daily expected. Both the ships will be sent to China with 20 chests of treasure on each. Owing to the depression of trade are unable to return them to Europe this season or let them out to freight. As the *Winchelsea* arrived half-laded from Bengal on February 9, will be unable to complete her lading with bales by at least 90 tons; the deficit will be made up with saltpetre. The *Cuddalore* sloop lost her passage to the Negrais and put in at Vizagapatam. Have not heard of the *Porto Bello* since she sailed for Bengal on October

27. The *Dragon* sloop was driven ashore in October near Fort St. David, but there are hopes of getting her out. Have no news yet of the reported Emden ship.

The 'orlopes' and the trade guns on the transports have been duly delivered. Have ordered the sale of the last year's stock of rice, as a large supply is expected from Bengal. Although a large quantity of copper dodoos and cash was coined only a few years ago, a scarcity of copper coins has been felt of late both here and at Fort St. David. On inquiry it was found that whenever the market price of copper exceeded the value of the copper coins, the latter were melted down for sale, so that the cost of mintage averaging 26 % has been a sheer loss to the Company. To prevent such malpractices, have now reduced the weight of the dodoos; in other words made the nominal exceed the intrinsic value so that it will not be worthwhile to melt them.

As regards woolen goods, we have been unable hitherto to sell a bale of what we have received this season. Consider that the large consignments recently made will ruin the woolen trade in India, if continued, as the merchants will fear to buy any considerable quantity lest the price should be reduced by further sale, before they have got rid of their stock. Also, sales in small lots at public outcry, depress the price. At the sale on February 12, no one offered to take a single bale, although the principal merchants offered to buy the whole at the price fixed by the Company. Believe that the Company's interest suffers by its lack of confidence in the Council. Have now in stock 1,500 bales, and should more arrive will have more than can be sold in two years, unless one season is allowed to pass without any being sent out; and the Company must lose the interest for one year on one year's supply as well as the decline in value of the cloth by keeping.

An investment in Devikottai would not be advantageous, as it would interfere with that at Fort St. David. The latter has been disappointing, and has supplied only 204 bales for this ship. Had expected that the Truce would permit the merchants to get much Salem cloth. They promised 600 bales but provided only 100, in spite of considerable advances. The Fort St. David merchants have been bringing in large quantities of cloth, but on a re-sorting, only 10 bales were found to be fit to be taken at any price. Shall take steps to compel the merchants to clear off their balances. 200 bales have been received from Vizagapatam, 94 from Ingeram and 127 from Madapollam. These investments would have been larger but for an insistance on exact measurements. Do not

understand how the French can benefit by buying short cloth at high prices, if cloth of full measurement cannot be sold to advantage in Europe. In Madras only 223 bales have been secured in spite of every effort to procure more. Though convinced that the old practice of employing Company's merchants would be more advantageous, in obedience to the Company's orders have invited proposals, and four proposals have been received. The first is from Sunku Rama, etc., and this is acceptable. The second is objectionable as coming from a Fort St. David merchant. The third is from a man of no credit whose object is merely to get advances from the Company. The last offer is from a petty merchant, who grew rich by unfair means during the French occupation and who would not mind losing by the contract, if he could raise his credit by its acceptance.

Enclose two plans of the Negrais island showing the soundings of the harbour, channels, and the Syrian river as far as Persaine. A storm has destroyed most of the works and houses already built. Brooke reports that he is preparing to remove to the north-west point, but the Council considers the north-east point most convenient. On receiving the present of palankins, the King of Pegu and Uppu Raja flatly refused to sign the treaty, and denied the grant of Persaine. Nothing but promises can be expected from that 'perfideous court' unless they should be reduced to concessions by failure in their war with the Burmese. This is conducted too slackly to come to a speedy conclusion. Can only wait an opportunity to obtain Persaine or some other place on the Syrian river without which Negrais would be valueless, but with which it would be of great consequence as a magazine and place of refuge. The people of Arakan, who are Burmese by race, have fitted out 300 boats to attack the Negrais. Have therefore sent 50 soldiers by the *Arcot* sloop and His Majesty's sloop, the *King Fisher*. The King of Tavoy has not yet replied to our proposals. Have made agreements with the French and the Dutch for the mutual surrender of deserters. As such an agreement was also made with the Danes two years ago, expect no further desertions as there is no European power on the Coast with whom they can take service. The Dutch have agreed to refund the 1 % duty, exacted from an English ship for landing her cargo at Malacca while she repaired her leak. They assert that she was fitted out for a voyage to the Spanish Isles, contrary to the Treaty of Munster. They probably hope by this concession to obtain greater ones from the English in regard to the Natal settlement.

Have made little progress in the Madras fortifications, for lack of materials and work-people. Have sanctioned the construction of additional barracks on the site chosen by Colonel Scott and Brohier at a cost of 11,921 Pags. The repairs to the powder-house (?) on the Island must be deferred till more necessary works have been completed. The Company's ancient and present Bounds are being resurveyed. It would be useful if an accurate survey of the Arcot country were taken. To accommodate strangers, have purchased a spacious house in Charles street for the moderate price of 6,000 Pags. It is now employed as Watson's residence. Have called for an estimate of the several houses in the pettah now rented for an hospital, with a view to their purchase. The fortifications at Fort St. David have been hindered as the workmen have been employed in fitting up barracks. The factory-house at Porto Novo collapsed during the recent rains. A peon's hut was ordered to be erected on the site to keep up the Company's right to the place. Though the Devikottai fort was much damaged by the monsoon which was unusually heavy in those parts, have only ordered absolutely necessary repairs to be made. As the Company is very particular that the farms should be let for one year by public outcry, have done so in the case of expired farms. Paddy fields and Salt-pans and the Company's Gardens were let only for 502 and 196 Pags. a year, respectively, though they fetched 750 and 250 Pags. under the longer lease. In the case of some farms disposal by outcry may be advantageous, but in the case of others the farms by going to new hands will deteriorate in a few years as the farmers will care nothing but to make as much as possible in 12 months. Advise that they may be leased for a longer period. The Mint customs increased by 1,500 Pags.; the Sea customs fell by 1,800 Pags. owing to smaller import of grain; and the Land customs by 1,400 Pags. due to smaller export of piece-goods for Manilla and Pegu. Fort St. David expenses fell by 50,000 Pags. owing to reduction of the garrison there to 5 companies. The pay of the rest of the troops there has been charged to Madras. Sea customs at Fort St. David fell by 5,600 Pags. owing to smaller import of grain.

On Saunders' departure, George Pigot assumed the chair. Cooke who was suspended proceeds on this ship. A second Committee appointed at his request to examine the rejected cloth which he was asked to take, again pronounced the cloth to be too bad. Boddam has not yet left for Vizagapatam. On enquiry into the charges brought against Paymaster Boddam by Colonel Scott, found

that both sides were to be blamed for the warmth of the controversy. Boddam certainly permitted some irregularities and has been ordered to refund overcharges amounting to 1,246 Pags. while he was Paymaster. Drake having recovered his health continues as Upper-Searcher at the Sea-gate. Henry Eustace Johnson being in ill-health was permitted to return to England on this ship. Waldegrave Pelham also proceeds on this ship as the climate does not suit him. John Whitehill who is appointed assistant at the Negrais sails on the *Arcot* snow. As writers are wanted at Sumatra, Philip Francis Greenslate was ordered thither. Such a transfer is unprecedented, but it has been made in order to break some connections which that gentleman seemed inclined to contract. On the conclusion of the Treaty, Sir James Foulis returned to Bombay. We presented him with 500 Pags. for his expenses. Lieutenant Stephen Augustus de Monchanin having apologised has been continued in the service.

Granted Captain's commission to John Howes (February 17) Captain-Lieutenant's commission to John Stephen Bilhock (November 15), and Lieutenant's commissions to Robert Campbell (November 15), Thomas Newton (November 16), and Richard Black (November 17). Appointed Captain Timothy Bridge Town Major (January 20). Captain John Howes though of the Bengal establishment has been placed on the Madras establishment on account of his proved capacity. In these troublesome times, company Captains ought to be men of experience, conduct and bravery. Captain Thomas Greenville died on November 28, and Captain Thomas White on December 24, 1754. Lieutenant Knapton died in Bengal in November last. Lieutenant Thomas Langford was placed on half-pay from November 15. Enclose a list of invalids on the Coast with their allowances. They might be provided for at home at less expense. The Company stated that the appointment of a court-martial was not made by written order but by word of mouth to the Judge Advocate. Are informed that it is not the practice in Europe and that no officer will sit as President without written orders.

Louis Madeiro's bonds for 25,000 Pags. and Peter Ballieu's bond for 5,000 Pags. have been discharged. The China Jesuits' bond will be paid off if our cash permits. Have received 20,000 Pags. as deposit from Mrs. Antonia de Madeiros at the current interest. This was done at a time when money was needed, but as peace has since been made with the French, it will be repaid as soon

as possible. John Smith's estate is to be included in the list of estates written off to account current London.

Sumatra affairs.

Have appointed John Walsh Mayor, and Claud Russell Sheriff and Coroner. There has been some difficulty in constituting the Court of Requests, as its duties are onerous and as the appointment is merely honorary. Suggest that refusal to serve in the Court of Requests should be punishable with fine as in the case of Aldermen. Enquire whether these latter are *ex-officio* exempt from serving on the Court of Requests. His Majesty's ships *Salisbury* from Bombay and the *King Fisher* from Bengal arrived February 15, and the *Bridgewater* from Bengal on February 18. Colonel Adlercron's regiment is quartered at Fort St. David. Have been obliged to pay nearly 300 Pags. a month for oil, pots, etc., used by the regiment. Adlercron has refused to pay for these or even to certify the accounts of those already supplied, but agrees to certify future accounts. It is impossible to avoid 'disgusts and dissatisfied minds in the gentlemen of His Majesty's forces', without deviating in some respects from the Company's orders.

Supplement: To maintain the Governor's dignity, a service of plate is necessary, as the old one was carried away by the French. Cooke has given security for the balance due from him. The reported attack on the Negrais from Arakan proving untrue, shall send thither only the *Arcot* snow. Broadcloth was again put up to outcry 2 days ago but with no better result. Mr. Dampier (a Frenchman from Pondichery) and his wife takes passage on this ship. On the news of Hindley's death, appointed Pybus as Deputy Governor of Fort Marlborough. Have laded on the *Winchelsea* 841 bales valued at 85,240 Pags. Diamonds, etc., registered amount to 119,851 Pags. Have in Cash, 13,805 current Pags. and 785 Madras Pags.; and in the Treasury, 1,96,269 Arcot Rs., 3,235 Madras Rs., 153,862 current Pags., and 617 Madras Pags., besides 40¼ chests of silver.

Postscript: Have drawn bills for 89 Pags.

Appended are:—(1) register of diamonds, etc., (2) list of the packets, and (3) sailing orders to Captain Christopher Baron of the *Winchelsea.*

APPENDICES

APPENDIX

Abstract of the lists of the Piece-goods investment to be sent home by

—	1744–1745.	1746–1747.	1747–1748.	1748–1749.
	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Allejars—				
Bright red	400	500	500	500
Beteellas—				
Ordinary	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Oringal	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500
Pulicat	700	1,100	1,400	1,400
Cambrick	...	...	...	...
Chintz (moorees)—				
Ordinary	5,000	2,500	3,000	3,000
Fine	...	...	...	...
Callawapores	600	1,000	1,000	1,000
Dimities, Fort St. David	200	400	...	...
Ginghams—				
Small white	800	800	800	800
Blue striped	200	500	500	500
Red striped	400	500	500	500
Clouded	...	200	...	...
Chequered	300	800	800	800
Superfine-coloured	...	...	...	...
Izarees—				
Fine	400	500	500	500
Superfine	200	400	400	400
Lampasses	...	1 bale	1 bale	1 bale
Longcloth—				
Ordinary	100,000	100,000	150,000	150,000
Middling	20,000	20,000	25,000	25,000
Fine	8,000	8,000	12,000	12,000
Superfine	600	600	400	400
Blue	5,000	5,000	6,000	6,000
Moorees—				
Ordinary	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Fine	3,000	3,000	2,500	2,500
Superfine	500	500	300	300
Romals—				
Sootie	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
Red and white	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Pulicat	600	200	200	200
Masulipatam	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Sastracundies, Bright	600	1,000	2,000	2,000
Salempores—				
Ordinary	60,000	60,000	100,000	100,000
Middling	20,000	12,000	40,000	40,000
Fine	8,000	7,000	10,000	10,000
Sarrasses	...	...	...	...
Sicashes—fine	...	1 bale	1 bale	1 bale
Succatums—fine	...	...	...	...

I.

the shipping returning in the seasons 1744–1745 *to* 1754–1755.

1749-1750.	1750-1751.	1751-1752.	1752-1753.	1753-1754.	1754-1755.
Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
500	500	500	500	500	500
2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
1,500	1.500	1,400	1,600	1,500	1,700
...	...	500	1,000	1,000	...
3,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
...	...	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,000
1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
...	...	...	200	...	...
800	1,000	1,000	1,000	600	...
500	500	700	700	800	1,000
500	500	500	500	400	400
...	...	...	...	...	...
800	800	500	200	200	...
...	..	...	...	...	...
500	700	500	500	500	500
400	300	400	500	500	500
1 bale	1 bale	400	400	400	400
150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	80,000	60,000
25,000	40,000	40,000	50,000	35,000	20,000
12,000	12,000	12,000	15,000	10,000	10.000
400	600	600	800	800	800
6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	5,000	4,000
3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	4,000
2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,000	2,000
300	600	600	800	800	800
8,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	3,000
1,000	1,000	...	...	...	(blue) 7,000
100	...	..	...	...	...
2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	60,000	50,000
40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	35,000	30,000
10,000	10,000	10,000	12,000	8,000	8,000
...	...	...	...	...	...
1 bale	1 bale	1 bale	1 bale	1 bale	1 bale
...	...	200	200	200	200

APPENDIX II.

Abstract of the manifests of private silver licensed for Madras, by the shipping 1745–1746 to 1753–1754.

	oz.
1745–1746	5,375
1746–1747	4,405
1747–1748	937
1748–1749	17,579
1749–1750	69,132
1750–1751	24,061
1751–1752	23,035 & 77 oz. of gold.
1752–1753	5,761
1753–1754	60,298 & 1,286 oz. of gold.

APPENDIX III.

Lists of persons permitted to proceed to India by the shippings of 1745–1746 to 1753–1754.

Dates	Names	Capacity	Where going	By what ship
		1745–1746.		
July 10, 1746.	Bernard Abraham.	Solomon's servant.	Fort St. George.	*Montfort.*
	(Besides 5 other persons for Anjengo and Bengal.)			
		1751–1752.		
January 8, 1752.	William Anderson.	Major Lawrence's servant.	Fort St. David.	*Durrington.*
	Elizabeth Ball ...	William Cockell's servant.	Do.	*Do.*
	Charles Powell ...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Florentia Craddock.	Passenger ...	Fort St. George.	*Oxford.*
	Elizabeth Edwards.	Do. ...	Do.	*Bombay Castle.*
	James Sutherland.	Mariner ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Margaret Maskelyne	Passenger (the future wife of Robert Clive).	Do.	*Godolphin.*
	John Irwin ...	Mariner ...	Do.	*Edgecote.*
	Philadelphia Austen.	Passenger ..	Fort St. David.	*Bombay Castle.*
	Mary Elliott ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Eleanor Cope ..	Do. ...	Fort St. George.	*Durrington.*
	Elizabeth Cockell ...	Do. ...	Fort St. David.	*Do.*
	William Cockell (child).	Do. ..	Do.	*Do.*
	James Repington ...	Volunteer ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Andrew Ross ...	Free Merchant ...	Fort St. George	*Colchester.*
	Mary Colefax ...	Passenger ..	Do.	*Godolphin.*
	Mary Smith ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Chesterfield.*
	(Besides 8 others for Bombay, Bengal, Bencoolen and Fort Marlborough.)			
		1752–1753.		
January 25, 1753.	Benjamin de Visme.	Mariner ...	Fort St. George.	*Portfield.*
	Frances Rous ...	Passenger ..	Do.	*Elizabeth.*
	Lucy Muriell ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Falmouth.*
	Jane Morse ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Elizabeth.*
	Frances Morse	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Emelia Morse ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Mary Butler ...	Passenger (Morse's servant).	Do.	*Do.*
	Edmund Massey ...	Free Merchant ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Francis Muriell ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Falmouth.*
	John Edwards ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Egmont.*
	Nicholas Morse ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Elizabeth.*
	(Besides 24 others for Bombay and Bengal.)			
		1753–1754.		
February 15, 1754.	James Lyon ...	Mariner ...	Fort St. George.	*Anson.*
	Amelia Hopkins ...	Passenger ..	Do.	*Ilchester.*
	Rachel Beaver ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Ann Jane Beaver ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	John Thomas Beaver.	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Francis Barnewall.	Free Merchant ...	Do.	*Norfolk.*
	William Belsches.	Do. ...	Do.	Abroad.
	John Worthington Turner.	Do. ...	Do.	*York.*
	Peter Mariette ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
March 15, 1754.	John Hussey ...	Orme's servant ...	Do.	*Warren.*
	(Besides 30 others for Bengal, Bombay and Bencoolen.)			

APPENDIX IV.

Abstract of the lists of recruits, etc., sent out to the Coast by the shippings of 1745–1746 to 1753–1754.

Date	Ship	Number	Remarks
		1745–1746.	
April 30, 1746 ...	*Britannia* ...	11	
July 9, 1746 ...	*Bombay Castle*	23	
November 14, 1746 ...	*Lapwing* ...	30	
		64	
		1746–1747.	
January 31, 1747 ...	*Eastcourt* ...	29	
January 31, 1747 ...	*Caesar* ...	23	
January 28, 1747 ..	*Oxford* ...	35	
February 18, 1747 ...	*Colchester* ...	16	Ensign James Cope (age 25). Ensign William Keene (age 36).
February 18, 1747 ...	*Benjamin* ...	10	Ensign Lawrence Donaldson (age 31).
February 18, 1747 ...	*Winchelsea* ...	21	Major Stringer Lawrence (age 44 ?). Ensign Edmund Pascall (age 25). Ensign John Brooke (age 24).
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		1747–1748.	
February 12, 1748 ...	*Lapwing* ...	28	Alexander Delavaux, Chief Engineer and Captain of the Artillery (age 40).
January 20, 1748 ...	*Duke of Dorset*	28	John Jacob, Sergeant (age 33).
January 13, 1748 ...	*Scarborough* ...	30	
July 24, 1748	*Porto Bello* ...	14	
		100	
		1750–1751.	
December 3, 1750 ...	*Essex* ...	41	
December, 15, 1750 ...	*Triton* ...	57	
December 3, 1750 ...	*Warwick* ...	65	
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		1751–1752.	
August 21, 1751 ...	*Durrington* ...	60	Stringer Lawrence, Commander-in-Chief (age 48). William Kinneer, Major (age 43). George Pattison, Ensign (age 32).
December 9, 1751 ...	*Prince of Wales.*	58	John Henry Schaub, Captain (age 30). John Francis De Beck, 2nd Lieutenant (age 28).
December 9, 1751 ...	*Drake*	52	John Chabbert, Captain (age 31). Rodolph Wagner, 2nd Lieutenant (age 32).
December 9, 1751 ...	*Edgecote* ...	52	George Frederick Gaupp, 1st Lieutenant (age 30). John Louis Prevost, Ensign (age 32).
November 26, 1751 ...	*Oxford* ...	69	Frederick Gurtler, First Lieutenant (age 26). John Conrad Heidegger, Ensign (age 33).
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		1752–1753.	
December 21, 1752 ...	*Harcourt* ...	25	
December 16, 1752 ...	*Boscawen* ...	55	
December 16, 1752 ...	*Clinton* ...	32	William Lin, Captain (age 32).
December 18, 1752 ...	*Edgebaston* ...	52	John Ridge, Captain (—).
			John Caillaud, Captain (—).
December 16, 1752 ...	*Suffolk* ...	51	
December 18, 1752 ...	*Marlborough* ...	46	Donald Campbell, Ensign (age 28).
			John Frazer, Ensign (age 29).
December 16, 1752 ...	*Winchelsea* ...	54	Jean George Schwartz, Cadet (age 30).
January 23, 1753 ...	*Portfield* ...	29	
January 23, 1753 ...	*Montfort* ...	71	Lewis D'Illens, Captain (age 30).
			George Hilffer, 2nd Lieutenant (age 42).
			Jean François Paschaud, Lieutenant (age 26).
			Jean Jaques Vouga, Cadet (age 20).
			François Flaction, Cadet (age 22).
			David Wird, Cadet (age 24).
			Jean Henri Sollikoffer (age [21]).
			Jean Carl Erdman (age [21]).
			Francis Lewis Tribolet (age 33).
			Francis Lauzunn (age [18]).
			Nicholas Bonjour (age [18]).
		415	
		1753–1754.	
November 28, 1753 ...	*St. George* ...	62	
December 19, 1753 ...	*Triton* ...	34	
December 19, 1753 ...	*Onslow* ...	48	
December 20, 1753 .	*Essex*	34	Alexander Callender, Captain (age 36).
			Thomas White, Captain (age 38).
			Thomas Newton, Lieutenant (age 35).
			William Jennings, Lieutenant of the Artillery (age 34).
December 19, 1753 ...	*True Briton* ...	31	John Henry Meyers, Ensign (age 26).
			Joseph Darke, Ensign (age 25).
December 20, 1753 ...	*Ilchester* ...	41	George Beaver, Captain (age 33).
			John Tabby, Lieutenant (age 44).
			Robert Campbell, Lieutenant (age 33).
			John Nollekens, Cadet (age 19).
			William James Tabby, Cadet (age 14).
			Jean Jacques Iselin, Cadet (age 19).
January 14, 1754 ...	*Norfolk* ...	39	Jean Jaques Raillard, Cadet (age 30).
February 15, 1754 ...	*Anson*	35	John Tabry, Cadet (age 31).
March 16, 1754 ...	*Warren* ...	65	Andrew Crotty, Cadet (age 20).
			Stephen Smith, Cadet (age 31).
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